

# Public Libraries

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## Being Fit.\*

Adam Strohm, librarian, Public library,  
Detroit, Mich.

In music the art of composition is known as counterpoint, defining the principles of melody or adding a melody to a given theme. It can be scientifically determined if a tune rings false or artistically true.

Every profession, every craft has its code that corresponds to the science of counterpoint. All producers are potential artists. Although we are only one of the factors that go toward determining public taste, our influence in that direction is of a degree that should bind us to perform our work in accordance with good taste. There are certain factors that determine the fitness of things, some elementary rules well recognized, others less defined and instinctive in character,—training, attitude, personal dignity, etc.—through it all we may well perceive the blending of elements which, if properly harmonized, attune the individual to his surroundings; fit him for the service required.

Let us for a few moments examine the professional units that we may fit together into an interlocking mosaic pattern.

I heartily agree with the stand taken by a well-known librarian of the Middle West, who remarked in part:

"If we are to realize the aims of the library to give an intelligent, an efficient service, proven competency and scholarship should be outstanding in the day's work—skill in the technical work, a broadening range of intellectual interests and increasing power and mastery over the literary materials."

If you agree with me that these are

\*Delivered before the Library schools of Illinois and Wisconsin.

essentials I would ask you not to overestimate mere equipment, mere educational machinery. More important than restrooms, bulletin boards, even card catalogs, are mental training, a desire to learn rather than to direct.

I'm not sure that we all feel comfortable about the general type of the modern librarian, at least in so far as the worker in municipal libraries is concerned. Is erudition a striking characteristic, is it on the ascending scale or not? There is zeal, enthusiasm, cleverness, but is there really depth of understanding, a vantage point which will give you something more than a mere local point of view, an understanding of the library as an institution of learning and, before all, of self-development, not sprung as a mere novelty of A. L. A. ideas, but, as other institutions, evolved in the gradual growth of civilization and social conditions. Do we know the past; are we studying and endeavoring to keep in touch with the trend of things; are we familiar with the great forces and figures in the field of education, metaphysics, religion, science, statesmanship, etc.? I fear that the library profession is not laboring under a very heavy weight of scholarship. Our professional journals are clogged with discussions of methods and technique rather than with interpretations of the vital principles underlying human progress.

Great teachers, great leaders of the past, have exercised their influence and left their mark, not by virtue of any rigid scheme of rules, but by weight of their personality, their mental power and moral calibre.

The public library is fulfilling a very proper, necessary function in distributing up-to-date information on "live" questions, but if there be truth in the

statement that "the stock of the library is ideas," the sober conclusion forces itself upon us that the librarian must be a disciple and a student no less than a business manager. The modern library stands ready to co-operate dispassionately in the civic and industrial adjustment of society, but in assisting toward a solution of this problem it behooves us to be not merely technical experts, but also trained to take the attitude of all who are laboring for the much discussed product of centuries, viz., "Culture." President Lowell, in a university address last year, defined culture as follows:

Culture, therefore, does not mean the possession of a body of knowledge to all educated men, for there is no such thing today. It denotes rather an attitude of mind than a specific amount of information. It implies enjoyment of things the world has agreed are beautiful; interest in the knowledge that mankind has found valuable; comprehension of the principles that the race has accepted as true. All this involves a desire to know, coupled with a capacity to acquire and appreciate.

With due recognition of our fruitful technological preparation and practical methods, we should not be content with being mere stokers; we should climb to the "captain's bridge" and find our bearings with an open vision and brave divination of the world's advance.

The recognition given the library profession is increasing and the material rewards are also on an ascending scale. The economic life of the library worker is necessarily one of considerable individual concern, but the dignity of the profession and our happiness demand that we practice altruism in our attitude toward the work. Dr George H. Palmer, at an important eastern educational conference last year, made some remarks on the difference between the professional and commercial career that are worth while heeding. In dilating on the spirit of the service, he said in part as follows:

The professional man must live by doing the work which is manifestly of value to the public, and accordingly a stipend or salary should be provided to cover the expenses of that mode of life which is thought appropriate for him. He should enjoy an existence designed to secure three essential elements in his work, namely—freedom, effi-

ciency and dignity. These are the negative conditions of our work.

There must also be certain positive interests attracting us to our work. These are many but let us confine our attention to the principal ones.

The controlling purposes of our labors I would name are a desire to exercise our powers with a view to benefiting the community; loyalty to a growing social service—our profession.

Strictly speaking, every professional man is engaged in his work for the fun of the thing.

Our attitude, our feelings should be that a community really pays us for doing what we would be glad to pay *it* for being allowed to do. In other words, the compensation of the professional man is measured by his inner "outgo" and not, like the tradesman, by his external "income."

A professional man dedicates himself to bring about better conditions. All the professions have this redemptive character.

There is a consensus of opinion that modern library work may be looked upon as a science of special nature. If this be true, and if we contemplate its various ramifications, do not some of our activities come on the borderland of a fine art, or at least, may not some of our functions be stimulated by bearing in mind some of the ideals we identify with the arts?

Kenyon Cox says in part:

True art has always been the expression by the artist of the ideals of his time and of the world in which he lived—ideals which were his own because he was a part of that world. A living and healthy art never has existed and never can exist except through the mutual understanding and coöperation of the artist and his public. Art is made for man and has a social function to perform. We have a right to demand that it shall be both human and humane; that it shall show some sympathy in the artist with our thoughts and feelings; that it shall interpret our ideals to us in that universal language which has grown up in the course of ages.

These remarks have a very close application to the professional make-up of the librarian; the relation between him and the public. The success of the librarian; the response that his efforts will meet, will depend very largely upon the understanding, the ideals that he, as a scholar and public servant, can bring to bear upon the problem.

True ambition aims at self-development rather than gratification of ego-

tistic vanity; our work, our profession, should be our great chastener. One hears the criticism that a big man must know something outside his profession, his craft—true enough, but in this very life outside one's professional working hours, one must maintain standards of value, be true to one's highest and best. To be one thing as an artist and another as a man, we will quickly realize is impossible—our work would be false.

We may leave our work behind us, but its noblest spirit must always be part of us. Failing in this respect, our influence will be nil; we will create nothing without ideals.

Do not confuse *ideals* with *traditions* and *routine*. The best work, the best service is an expression of the personality itself. You should be ruled not so much by rules as by a desire to do more than is stipulated by regulations; at our best we are propelled by something from within rather than without. Our manners should be those of deference rather than arrogance. We should cooperate rather than direct.

Some precepts as to our personal dignity may also be in order. Make a dignified appearance. Dress with restraint and good taste; good taste is inexpensive. Remember that there is dignity in simplicity.

All conversation in the day's work should be impersonal and discreet. Do not gossip. Questions should be intelligent—not trivial; come to the heart of the matter quickly. Discuss the point and rest your case. Be definite in your answers.

Do not chatter amiably. Do not allow yourself to appear too sympathetic in your service, nor amused at oddities or absurdities in readers. Do not use endearing terms or drawing room phrases or banalities in discussing work of very high order. In the presence of the beautiful, if confronting the sublime, the art of conversation is the art of holding one's tongue.

In making remarks or delivering addresses on library work, we are under obligations to observe the dignity of the profession, and we should remember that

the success and the advancement of any profession, any art is subject to certain definite laws and that every evolution is along well-defined principles. The history of any educational or cultural movement is one of very *gradual* development, of careful study and deliberate experimentation. It is the systematic, clear-thinking individual who deliberately goes about the solution of problems unmoved by popular clamor, who generally reaches the heart of the problem and the truth. Advancement in education, including library work, was never brought about, and will never be realized through verbosity and thrills. In our profession we should avoid the use of sensational utterances or half-truths given out merely for effect.

The library profession as a part of the organized education, does not proclaim and does not believe in any "cure all" prescriptions, or in any short cut to intellectual attainments. Mental training and intellectual power are not recognized as compatible with the manipulation of mere high-sounding plausible vocabulary. The library profession does not endorse the correspondence school manner of acquiring education. We should refrain from claiming that a real understanding of the worth of literature is acquired by the glittering use of the great names in the world of letters. If venturing out into the unfathomable depth of rhetoric, do not let us use these great names as life preservers. There is a sanctity due them as high as those famous in religious history.

In speaking about the library service in its various ramifications—it may be to individuals of an industrial community—we should shun the methods of a library "confidence" man. The pious statement that a budding captain of industry may approach one of our librarians on duty and stumble upon a book from which he will acquire knowledge that will return untold wealth in his industrial activity—may make a very good copy for "advertising" journals and newspapers, but its use should be outlawed in the library profession.

If we have condemned such literary

gems as the Alger books, it is even more important that we do not take the liberty of telling Alger stories in our library conversations and library publicity work. It would be well if our attitude and point of view were steadied by the history of the past. The men and women who stand out in the library annals of this country are those whose most conspicuous characteristics were dignity, self-effacement, and abhorrence of individual self-exploitation. We should feel with pride that even today the leaders in the profession are those of unselfish devotion, sanity and dignity.

If the sublime, if abstract sentiment should not, in accordance with good taste, be poured out through the gates of sentimentality, it is even more fitting, more becoming, to keep from bemoaning one's lot, to voice a grievance, to discuss one's troubles. The American temperament has a trick of covering a deep emotion by some light jest. Cultivate your sense of humor.

R. L. S. in his essay on Thoreau remarks: "What we want to see is a man who can breast into the world, do a man's work and then preserve his first and pure enjoyment of existence."

Do not let us be skulkers. Let us take our place among our fellow men and feel the bracing contact of the world.

A library school graduate is generally not wanting in spirit, in earnestness, but public service will need every drop of your brave spirit. You will have to deal with human society in all its complex make-up, worthy of a cubist's dream. The issue of the hour, the solution of the problem, may seem very obvious to you, but the mind of the people is not converted over night. You may even feel repelled by the struggle looming ahead and the forces and methods you have to contend with—the arbitrary plea of retrenchment, of "military necessity," is as old as the hills. You may even be discouraged and feel like leaving the burden to others. Do not quit. Remember that you have been admitted to a company of men and women whose endeavors are prompted by obedience to duty and the pride of service.

### The Reasons Anent Cataloging

Who knows why the supply of catalogers is short? There are several reasons.

The vast majority of those who are not catalogers will say that it is because direct contact with the public is so much more interesting; because the opportunities for social service are so much greater in the circulation department, the children's room or at the reference desk; that while the catalog is, they suppose, a very useful adjunct, the other phases of the work are so much more vital they really cannot conceive of any one being willing to be shut off in a corner to "just catalog" day in and day out, *they* wouldn't do it "for a-n-y-t-h-i-n-g."

The girl going in and out of the library forms her first impressions concerning the work from the side which deals with the public. She hears these comments on all sides from the day she begins work as an apprentice up to the time when she enters the regular library school. Nor does it stop there. She soon discovers that by the vast majority of students, the one who dares admit a preference for cataloging, or even a decided interest in the subject, is looked upon as a very peculiar sort of person if not a decided freak. She finds that the course in cataloging is a necessary evil to be gotten through with as soon as possible in order that one may proceed to the really important subjects which are to help revolutionize society. Of course that long suffering mortal who teaches the subject tries to instill other views—she is one of the freaks—and the other members of the faculty *say* many things about the necessity and value of the work, but—doesn't she know that they were students themselves not so long ago, talking in just the same way as students are talking now?

Is it any wonder that she leaves school with the idea that to take up cataloging is to shut herself into a cloister?

Suppose, notwithstanding all she has heard and seen, she has decided there is a field for service behind the scenes; that to plan and construct an index to the library's resources, to put it down in

black and white where it will answer the questions of thousands, is to furnish to the other departments the key without which they would stand before closed doors. She has convinced herself that cataloging demands even a broader and deeper culture than that required to answer the vast majority of questions which come to the reference desk and that it is quite as praiseworthy as to hold a group of children enthralled during the story hour. She is sure that to work while she works, apart from the public, in the solitude of her office, does not argue that she is devoid of interest in the day's events or wanting in the desire for human companionship after the day's work is over, does not, in fact, argue that she is a mere "stick" socially and a "freak" intellectually. She is as altruistic, as red-blooded and enthusiastic as her sister. What does she find if she does go into cataloging? What basis is there for the other idea?

In too many libraries she finds herself seated for seven or eight hours a day, six days in the week, in a poorly lighted room, so crowded that she never ceases to be conscious of her neighbor's movements, certain of which, taken in small doses, at intervals, would not attract her attention for a moment, but which towards the end of a long day become extremely annoying. In other places, even where she reigns alone, the conditions are as bad. There is a modern Carnegie building in which the cataloging room is very tiny, the door opening into a narrow corridor with a blank wall opposite, the windows high above the cataloger's head affording never a glimpse of the outside world and absolutely no cross ventilation. In summer the shades or awnings which are necessary to prevent the sun from streaming across the desk most effectually cut off any breeze which might otherwise chance to filter through. Artificial light becomes a necessity much of the time and that cataloger is in truth giving her eyes and general health to her work.

When the day is done and a cataloger leaves the building, fatigued mentally if not physically, what then? The one who lives at home may perhaps be excluded

here, for presumably warm and lasting friendships have been formed before she entered the work. What is there for the young assistant from out of town, full of life and energy and as desperately in need of getting away from books, and finding the human intercourse she has missed during the day, as her fellow worker is in need of a bit of solitude? What opportunity has she had to make friends outside of her rooming house? Her salary does little more than provide a hall bedroom and the necessary carfares. The movies are not exactly the best thing for her tired eyes, nor lectures, the theater, or opera, if she dared afford them, the things she really needs if she is not to become, willy nilly, the recluse she is charged with being, is congenial human companionship.

Most universities and colleges grant a few academic privileges to heads of departments although very seldom are they accorded academic rank, no matter how many degrees they are required to possess. Their position is to this extent better than that of their assistants who are neither students, nor faculty, nor yet "Other officers," even though their collegiate and professional training may be superior to that of many within the academic circle. Academic lines are not always democratic lines and here, too, the cataloger, far more than the assistant at the desk, is in need of a buoyant disposition and abundant resources within herself if she is to obtain the relaxation she so greatly needs.

That cataloging is close, exacting work, every one familiar with it will admit. That even seven hours a day, six days in the week, is too confining and fatiguing every cataloger knows. That in properly arranged rooms, under intelligent, sympathetic direction, with due regard for the ordinary human need of variety, it is either unpleasant work or work that tends to make the cataloger narrow, I most emphatically deny. It is *not* a question of the intrinsic nature of the work. It is a question of the conditions under which it is done.

Until within the library circle itself the apprentice hears the cataloger and her

work spoken of with greater respect and appreciation; until working conditions are improved, hours shortened, and salaries made commensurate with the qualifications demanded; and until more attention is paid to the problems which confront the assistants outside of working hours, especially the one of finding the association with their fellow men which is denied them during the day, just so long will the supply of catalogers be short.

Who will effect the remedy?

One who nevertheless prefers cataloging.

MARY E. BAKER.

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Dear Editor Public Libraries:

In answer to the question in your March editorial, I should like to offer the following suggestion. May not the spirit of adventure be responsible for our inability to secure a sufficient number of able catalogers? The possibility of a daily or hourly adventure appeals strongly to the American character and is ever present in all other departments of a library with their ever changing personal contact.

In the catalog department even the adventure within the book is permitted only to the classifier—and there is no lack of applicants for such a position.

Between the career with the prospect of thrills and the one without, to the youthful librarian, there is usually but one choice.

What adventures will the libraries offer catalogers?

HARRIET B. GOOCH.

Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.

### Ohio County Library Law

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The provisions of the Ohio county library law briefly are as follows:

Section 1 establishes a county library district in every county in the state, including all territory not already maintaining libraries. (Sections 1 and 2 are mandatory.)

Section 2 provides a library board for such a district.

Section 3 permits the districts having libraries to be added to the county library.

Section 4 permits the levying of a tax, when voted by the electors of the district.

Sections 5 and 6 describe the use of the funds by the trustees of the board.

Section 7 provides co-operation with the schools.

Section 8 provides a subsidy of \$500 from the state.

Section 9 provides for examinations of county librarians.

Section 10 exempts county libraries now in operation, and

Section 11 will attempt a state wide co-operation.

The bill passed last week and will become a law in 90 days. I believe it is a very practical bill. It will enable libraries to be established in counties which have none, and in counties which have libraries they may either remain separate, may be included, or the service of one of them may extend over the county.

I send this as I think it may be of interest.

Yours very truly,

W. H. BRETT.

March 17, 1917.

### Petition for Adequate Remuneration

Brooklyn public library, February 27, 1917.

To the Board of Trustees of the Brooklyn

Public Library

and

To the Board of Estimate and Apportionment of the City of New York.

Gentlemen:

The Staff of the Brooklyn public library is compelled to respectfully direct the attention of the Board of Trustees to a situation which has arisen in the service so acute as to demand immediate and serious consideration.

During the past fourteen years, the salary schedule of the service has remained practically unchanged while living expenses have steadily increased. During the past few months, the actual cost of living has advanced to a point where the members of the staff find that the salaries they are receiving fail to provide for the barest necessities of life.

When it is remembered that the salaries paid to the librarians were quite inadequate fourteen years ago, lengthy argument in support of the contention that they utterly fail to meet the conditions existing to-day seems scarcely necessary.

Within the past year, the trustees have adopted a new system of grading which has materially raised the standards of the service and increased the obligations upon the employees to do thoroughly efficient work. It seemed reasonable to assume therefore,

that with the new requirements imposed, increased remuneration might be looked for in the near future.

It has been urged by some that, generally speaking, women are not wholly dependent upon their own earnings. That such an assumption, at least in the case of the Brooklyn public library, is without basis in fact, is borne out in the following statement of existing conditions in this regard. On our staff of 287 women, exclusive of cleaners and pages, 260 are dependent upon their own earnings; 120 are required to support themselves, and in addition, are required to support, wholly or in part, other members of their families. Only 27 live at home, without the necessity of contributing to the family finances, or enjoy income from outside sources.

Opportunities for employment outside the service are increasing. The most experienced and most efficient members of the staff are repeatedly offered inducements to leave the library. Business houses are more and more coming to recognize the value of library training and to seek employees who possess such training. The staff will be depleted if members are not encouraged in a substantial manner to remain in the service. In fact, it is already seriously weakened. The truth of this statement is borne out by the report recently made to the Board by the chief librarian.

The staff therefore petitions the Board of Trustees to take immediate action to the end that salaries commensurate with the quality of work demanded may be forthcoming in the immediate future. The Staff believes it is not unreasonable to ask that they be placed on a plane at least approaching that of other classes of city employees performing similar work.

### Only a Difference in Date

March 13, 1917.

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I desire to call attention to a publication announced by the Architects' Supply and Publishing Company of New York, entitled "Apartment houses of the Metropolis."

The advertising put out by the company conveys the impression that this is a new work which they "have now ready," and states that "no publication of a similar nature has ever been attempted."

We ordered a copy and have discovered that the book is merely a reprint of a work issued in 1908 by the Hesselgren Publishing Company, the only change being the omission of the date

from the title page and of the copyright entry from the back of same.

GEORGE W. FULLER,  
Librarian.

Spokane public library, Wash.

### The D. C. Advisory Committee

The Decimal Classification advisory committee of the American library association now knows what sections of the D. C. are most in need of expansion. The replies to our circulars of last year, sent to over 500 libraries, show these classes (arranged in the sequence of demand) to be: 63, 658, 79, 15, 656, 38, 659, 629.2, 657, 66, 940.91.

The editors of the D. C. have themselves prepared the expansion of 63, Agriculture.

Our committee is naming 9 sub-committees to prepare expansions of the other 10 sections mentioned above.

Any library that has prepared original expansions of any of these sections should immediately send copies of them to the secretary for the use of the sub-committees, if they have not already done so.

A. LAW VOGEL,  
Secretary.

Mechanics Institute, San Francisco.

### Supplied on Request

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Owing to the fact that the number of copies of the Annual report of the trustees of the Newberry library for 1916 is much smaller than that printed in former years, libraries and individuals desiring a copy to complete their files are respectfully asked to address the Library to this effect.

W. N. C. CARLTON,  
Newberry library, Librarian.  
Chicago.

The assistant has had two champions recently who have sent comments on her woes for PUBLIC LIBRARIES for publication. One was accompanied by a letter from the writer, the other was not. One has been printed, the other has not, because nothing about it showed a hint of its source.

## Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Library Bureau	- - - - -	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	- - - - -	Editor
Subscription	- - - - -	\$2 a year
Five copies to one library	- - - - -	\$8 a year
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Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1879.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

**The poetry fashion.**—*The Dial* for March 8 contains a keen analysis by Conrad Akin of the stir which the present poets of America are causing, anent the 1916 edition of Braithwait's Anthology.

No class of persons, not even the critics, has been so impressed with the wave of interest in poetry that has overflowed the landscape of literature within the past two years, as have been librarians. To some, perhaps to most, this interest has seemed real, but to others there has seemed to be a striving after effect in comment, an emphatic announcement of praiseworthy, wide spread, genuine interest, to a degree far beyond the just merits of the poetry of the period. As Mr Akin hints, it has grown out of an ardent desire to see American poetry flourishing, to see it reach something of the popularity it enjoyed in the last half of the nineteenth century, and in too many cases, the wish has been the father to the thought that it had really done so. The favorites of

the avenues of praise have been applauded loudly for good and not rebuked for bad, or at least the bad has been only faintly mentioned.

Mr Akin's article is fair, to the point and well worth serious attention by those interested in the appraisal of books.

**The living wage.**—An interesting document is the petition presented to the board of trustees by the staff of the Brooklyn public library (see page 156). Everyone who reads it will add their earnest wish that the effort it sets forth will be successful.

The members of library boards generally, and of the Brooklyn board particularly, are usually men of known business ability and the substance of such a petition ought to appeal directly to their business judgment, as evidently it did in the case of Brooklyn, since after consideration it was voted to forward the petition to the Board of estimate with a request for an increase in the salary of all members of the staff receiving \$1,200 or less. The same action was taken by the Boards of Manhattan and Queens boroughs.

In no good business concern is it the practice to spend time, which is money, in training an employee in the intricacies of the business and then, when he is able to bring in returns, by reason of his acquired knowledge and experience, let him go for the sole reason of difference in salary. If he is valuable in one place, he is likely to be as valuable in another.

In the case of a librarian, the same principle holds. She has come to know her stock; she has come to know her customers, their likes and dislikes, and, if she is of good quality, she has become that which the library board is pledged to secure for the public. The knowledge that her services are appreciated by the

public and by the Board which stands for the business relations of the public, will add to her efficiency by relieving her mind of an anxiety as to necessary income.

In regard to the remark that "women can afford to live on less than a man," one can hardly condemn it in too strong terms. It is not a question that concerns the institution or the public, as to how much an employee needs on which to live and to say that employees are not dependent on their earnings, is to say that the library is willing to take from the family of its employees, the difference between what they would have to pay to one who did not live at home and one who did, a position in which no self-respecting public wishes its trustees to place it.

Whatever may be the various avenues opened for library service, there can be no question that it is first and foremost an educational institution which the public has set up for its own use and the very best quality of service that the community can afford should be secured for a public library staff if the investment which the public has made is to have full return for the purpose and money invested. Up to a certain point, long service makes the librarian more valuable and it is no part of wisdom to allow the ripeness of wisdom and judgment of conditions gained in library service to be lost to outside agencies which are more appreciative of these qualities than is the library, without very good reasons.

The public library service of Greater New York has had an unquestionably fine reputation throughout the country and it is hoped that those entrusted with it will have the wisdom to make proper provision for continuing this good serv-

ice of its public libraries by adequately paying those who have proven themselves capable of performing the tasks assigned to them.

#### Civil Service Inadequacy

Charles F. D. Belden, chairman of the Massachusetts free library commission, gives the following reasons why the Board are unanimously opposed to the inclusion of library employees among those subject to the control of the Civil Service:

Experience has shown that where Civil Service has been extended to assistants in public libraries, the result has been detrimental to the library's efficiency. Except in the few cases where appointments had previously been made for political purposes, it has still to be shown that appointments under Civil Service have improved library service or strengthened the personnel of the library staff.

Membership on boards of trustees of public libraries in Massachusetts, as elsewhere, is considered a high honor. An examination of the names of men and women giving their service to libraries would show that they represent the best business capacity and intelligence of the community. The exceptions throughout the country are curiously few and exist only where the spoils system holds sway. Library boards of trustees work for the best interests of the library in their charge; they are proud of results and their desire is to obtain the best possible assistants with the funds available. Trustees welcome their responsibility and merit their power of administration, including that of making appointments which they now possess.

Library assistants must be sought. The desirable person is not dissatisfied with a present position or looking for a new position. Most often only larger pay and opportunity for growth tempt a competent person to make a change.

Experience, personality, tact and initiative mean more in the vast majority of library positions than the possession of the technical knowledge of their profession. The latter may be tested by examination, the former cannot. In theory, the Civil Service count experience, personality and those intangible qualities that go in the make-up of the perfect assistant, but with what unsatisfactory success is known only to those who have been under obligation to work with certain Civil Service appointees.

The inducement to enter classes in apprenticeship, training schools in libraries, and even library schools would be greatly diminished. At present such training leads

to the practical certainty of an immediate position, with an opportunity for advancement, for all persons who are adapted to the work.

It is the opinion of the Free public library commission that there is no general demand among library employees to include them within the Civil Service rules. Certainly boards of trustees and librarians are unanimous in their opposition. It would tend to benefit only the incompetent, the undeserving of promotion and the superannuated.

Libraries are educational institutions. The exclusion of their employees from the Civil Service rules is desirable for the same reasons that teachers in the public schools are excluded.

In states and cities where the question has been discussed, the increasing practice has been and is to exclude library employees from the Civil Service.

The Free public library commission and I believe most library boards of trustees, would welcome any plan that would aid them to secure a higher grade of library assistants. It is believed, however, that their inclusion within the Civil Service rules will inevitably result in a lower rather than a higher grade of assistants, and in a marked deterioration in the quality of membership on library boards of trustees.

Any library that has had experience in trying to work with the handicap of Civil Service domination will fully agree with Mr. Belden's ideas.

### Duplication

A recent writer in *New York Libraries*, (5:195) presents a very good article on the how and why of choosing books, particularly those listed in *Best Books*. But in explaining why the New York state library publishes the *Best Book List*, instead of relying on the *A. L. A. Booklist*, or any other, some very cogent reasons are mentioned. The first reason is as follows:

It is compiled with the special needs in mind of the small libraries of New York state. Obviously none of the other lists has this purpose. Bulletins which select books for the whole country or for some single western state are too comprehensive or contain titles which have little interest or value to the small communities of New York state, and are confusing to the librarian.

This seems hardly a broad view to take, either of "the whole country" or of "some single western state" or of New York state itself, since if the how

and why of choosing books for the public libraries of anywhere is carefully studied, there will be found slight variations in reasons for choosing books for different communities. The illustration which the writer gives, *Village life in America*, sells quite as well in Chicago as in New York. Perhaps the next book given "of special interest to New Yorkers," *Annals and family reminiscences of the VanRensselaer and Livingston*, is not as popular with the limbs and twigs of those lines elsewhere—in the Middle West, many of them are interested only in their bank books, but the third, "An advertisement of the Delaware & Hudson railroad," would doubtless be as interesting reminiscences to many in any western state, as they think back either of the severe winters of their youth in the Lake George or Lake Champlain region or of the cost of summer outings there.

And so one might go on with the other reasons which are given. Best books for the small community and the books that are too high priced and those that are too remarkable for their literary quality or their intricacies of style to be intelligent to the average reader, are factors alike in every problem of any small library.

The fact that *Best Books* is published annually gives the compiler the advantage of what was termed in last fall's campaign, "the second guess." After observation and experience with the books included in the monthly list after they come out, it is much easier to say what will go, than it is to make the choice while the librarians are clamoring for directions right now, as to what and where to buy.

The general trend of the article is good and any one who makes a book list could well imitate the high plane on which the "How" in the matter of book selection is carried out. But after reading it all, one still wonders if the reason which appears in the first paragraph does not stand as the real reason to the "Why." *Best books* was started 10 years before the *A. L. A.* list or

the *Wisconsin Bulletin* and does not feel like retiring.

In thinking seriously of this subject in its ramifications, one cannot but say, in all fairness, that there is too great duplication in many of these things and especially so by the subsidized organizations which are producing them. The A. L. A., a voluntary organization with insufficient means, is struggling to produce that which will obliterate the necessity of the librarians, in general, in doing it for themselves. New York is not alone in this. In a number of instances, with the State treasury on which to draw, state printers taking care of the greatest expense, staffs of specialists who ought to have good salaries for doing something else, are producing along the same lines. This means that either the A. L. A. is not doing the work sufficiently well to meet the needs in these various instances, or else the state institutions are taking advantage of their position and means to do the kind of work which they like to do, despite the fact that somebody else is doing it as well. A very conscientious and therefore a very busy library worker, not long since, said: "I am driven to desperation in trying to keep up my knowledge of all the printed matter relating to libraries. I feel as if I must go over all of it and yet, when I have done so, I seem to have been reading again and again the same thing told by different people for no apparent reason except the spirit of 'me too.'"

The whole matter of printing for the librarian's use needs fair, frank study in an endeavor to find the proper adjustment.

Let us forget the things that vexed and tried us,

The worrying things that caused our souls to fret;

The hopes that cherished long, were still denied us

Let us forget.

Let us forget the little slights that pained us,

The greater wrongs that rankle sometimes yet,

The pride with which the lofty one disdained us

Let us forget.

### Library Week in Waco, Texas

The recent "library week" conducted by the Public library of Waco, Texas, proved a most successful venture.

The library has always been used freely by women, children and students, but the men of the city were not using it as much they might. The library has been advertised by newspaper notices, lists of books, school visits, talks to Parent-teachers associations, booths at fairs, window displays, framed placards in shops, and a variety of other ways used by all libraries, with not much success in getting the men to use it. It was decided, therefore, to devote one week to a vigorous campaign of publicity, stressing the methods which would tend to attract men of all classes and lines of work. But the library had no funds with which to carry on such a campaign. Following the example of Toledo, Ohio, the librarian went before the Waco Advertiser's club with suggestions that they put on the campaign for the library. The members of the advertising club were enthusiastic in their endorsement of the idea and a committee was appointed to go over plans with the librarian.

The members of the committee were of the opinion that the preliminary advertising would probably attract more attention than the advertising done during library week. So, on January 1, it was announced, through the newspapers, that the week of February 4 to 10 would be known as "library week." The purpose of the campaign was explained and a number of the plans given.

At the same time, following a suggestion from the Free public library of Newark, an appeal was made to "Our constant users" asking them to send in expressions of appreciation, stating just what pleasure or practical value they had derived from the use of the library. This appeal brought forth many expressions—even inspiring one patron to poetry in which he spoke of the staff as "Ladies with gentle grace." A few of these were selected and run in the newspapers as a suggestion to others that they might profit likewise.

A few days later, announcement was made that a cash prize of five dollars was offered by the Lions club for the best slogan to be used during library week. More than 200 slogans were submitted within a week, the time limit set. The Advertiser's club followed this offer with one of \$10 for the best poster advertising the library. A number of amateur and professional artists of Waco submitted posters. Display ads and news items referring to each of these offers were run in the newspapers from time to time in order to keep up the interest in the campaign.

On February 1, every Waco citizen, who received a bill from the telephone company, the electric light company, or any of the larger business houses, found enclosed a neat little slip headed, "Get the library habit"—the slogan selected. These slips stated that the library is free; that there is no red tape attached to getting a card; and that one might find there information of all kinds, or just an entertaining book. The printing of these slips was donated by a printer who was changing his headquarters at that time. He was glad to print them on condition that he might print his new address at the bottom of the slips. Practically every man in Waco received one of these slips and many received several—the number depending upon his credit.

The next announcement to greet the public was that two prizes, of ten and five dollars respectively, would be awarded for the best window displays featuring library books during library week. The librarian visited merchants personally and requested them to allow their window trimmers to participate in the contest. The response was so general that, in the five blocks comprising the principal retail district, there were 32 displays. Each window included merchandise sold by that particular shop, library books related to the merchandise, bulletins appropriate to the books and placards telling the public to "Borrow these books from the Waco public library. Get a book today. No cost. No red tape. Sign

your name and take a book home with you." A number of original ideas and striking effects were produced. The first prize was awarded to a china shop and the second to a store dealing in sporting goods. The latter was particularly attractive to men. Each of the prize winning windows used only a few books but they were connected with the shop's wares in such a way as to create an interest in both the books and the merchandise. In the stores which did not carry window displays were placed the posters entered for the prize and placards and show cards calling attention to the library. Everywhere one turned he was met with some form of advertising for the library.

Prizes were offered for the window displays by the First National Bank and the Texas Telephone Company respectively. In addition to the four mentioned, a fifth was now offered. This, which was offered by the manager of the largest motion picture theater in Waco, was a month's pass to the theater for the boy or girl who submitted the best list of books which had been dramatized in motion pictures.

Next came the "library transfer." The public was told to "ask for a library transfer on any car passing the library between the hours of 9 a. m. and 9 p. m. during library week." This special transfer, extended by the courtesy of the Street Railway Company, was printed free of charge by a local printer. The transfer allowed a stop-over of 30 minutes at the library and was good on cars going in the same direction as the car on which the transfer was given. Thus the library patron might stop at the library on his way down town, or on his way home, without paying an extra car fare. The library board has hopes of inducing the street car company to continue the use of these transfers.

During the campaign special attention was called to the library in all the city schools. A number of the teachers gave credits for the reading of certain library books; others, for themes

on the "use of the library"; while one teacher, for a description of the window display which appealed most to the child writing. It was interesting to note that neither of the prize winning windows received attention from the children. The window selected by the greatest number was a particularly attractive one in which was used United States history with Texas history as the central interest. A popular window represented a living room in which were seated the father, mother and two children, each reading the library book best suited to his taste. Another was lined with gayly colored pictures of birds and contained books on birds. One, which attracted the attention of the boys, was arranged by an electrical supply house using books on electricity and things electrical.

During library week the librarian made short talks before commercial and labor organizations, boys' clubs, the Y. M. C. A. and the employees of railroad shops and the larger factories. These talks were from five to fifteen minutes in length and were devoted to that particular phase of the library's activities which it was thought would appeal most to the audience addressed. In every instance the fact that the library was free and that no red tape was attached to the getting of a card was emphasized. In addition to the 14 talks made by the librarian, the children's librarian told four stories to working boys' clubs and talked to the Parents-teachers association on the children's work at the library.

The newspapers co-operated most generously, giving the campaign committee all the space they wished to use. Many columns were used in the preliminary publicity attracting attention to the contests, prizes and results hoped for by those conducting the campaign. Daily, during library week, there appeared from two to five articles in each paper. These consisted of news items relating to the talks made, the interest manifested, new plans, or some special feature of library service. Each

day appeared an article of more than a column in length on some phase of library work. The librarian took advantage of the opportunity to educate the public and furnished articles on the "Purpose of library week," "The history of the Waco public library," "A day's work at the library," "Loan desk work," "The children's department," "Reference and reading rooms," and, on the last day, "Obligations of patrons." These articles were supplemented by display advertisements, the space for which was donated by the papers. In addition to the advertising donated by the papers, a number of business firms called attention to the library in their own advertising space. This was unsolicited by the committee.

The direct results of the campaign are indicated by the increased number of readers' cards made during library week and the week following—more than three times the usual number made during the same period of time; by requests left for books seen in the window displays, by the number of telephone calls from business men for information; and by the variety of occupations represented in a list made up from the applications for cards made during the two weeks.

It is too soon to determine what the larger results of the campaign may be. It is hoped, however, that every one in Waco, who was not aware of it before, now knows that there is a public library in the city; that it is free; that he does not have to furnish a guarantor to get a card; that the library has something for him; and that the staff is always glad to serve him. Probably the greatest benefit the library will derive from the campaign in the future is the fact that such a great number of business men have shown a disposition to co-operate in making its influence felt. By taking a personal part in "library week" they have come to know more about the facilities of the library and will take a personal interest in the expansion.

PAULINE McCAULEY.

### Autobiographies of Today

The Public library of Newark, New Jersey, has prepared a list of some recent autobiographies with brief quotations from them, at the request of the Contemporary club of that city.

The list is as follows:

In three legations. Bunsen. "So far, we are quite charmed with the Hague and find its quiet and comfort a haven of rest after the turmoil of Berlin."

A far journey. Rihbany. "My father's house was a typical Syrian house. The roof was the Biblical flat roof, such as the one on which Peter went to pray in ancient Joppa."

Random reminiscences. Brookfield. "I was at Cambridge with both Hallam and Lionel Tennyson."

Village life in America. Richards. "We went down town this morning and bought us some Shaker bonnets to wear to school. They cost \$1.00 apiece and we got some green silk for capes to put on them."

Early memories. Lodge. "Then a tall man, who I knew was Mr. Sumner, stood up in the carriage, and at the sight of him a shout arose from that crowd, the like of which I have never heard since."

Reminiscences. Abbott. "For one of my great ambitions was to be a minister. I see myself now, a pale-faced, anaemic slim chap of ten or eleven, preaching to a congregation of empty chairs."

Promised land. Antin. "My father was inspired by a vision. He saw something. He promised us something. It was this 'America.' And America became my dream."

Reminiscences of my childhood and youth. Brandes. "I had wished for years to see Paris, the city that raised my most devout feelings."

Father and son. Gosse. "As my mental horizon widened, my father followed the direction of my spiritual eyes with some bewilderment."

My day. Pryor. "An interesting time was the arrival in Washington of the first Japanese embassy that visited this country. Washington lost its head."

Personal record. Conrad. "Yes, you find criticism at sea, and even appreciation. I tell you everything is to be found on salt water."

Story of a pioneer. Shaw. "All night journeys in freight cars, engines and cabooses were casual commonplaces, while thirty or forty mile drives across the country in blizzards and bitter cold were equally inevitable."

Chronicle of friendship. Low. "At the appointed hour there descended from the Calais train a youth, 'unspeakably slight,' with the face now familiar to us, the eyes

widely spaced, a nose slightly aquiline, and delicately modelled, the high cheek bones of the Scot."

Story of my life. Keller. "We met Mr Clemens and Mr Howell there! I had known about them for a long time, but I had never thought that I should see them and talk to them."

Part of a man's life. Higginson. "If I may refer to my own experience as one of the younger Abolitionists, I may truly say that my first discovery of the negro's essential manhood came long before I had heard of the anti-slavery agitation."

Journal of Marie Bashkirtseff. "All my life is contained in this diary."

### Printed Children's Catalogs

Bacon, Corinne, comp.

Children's catalog of one thousand books; a guide to the best reading for boys and girls. *pa.* \$2. '16, Wilson, H. W.

Children's catalog of two thousand books. *pa.* \$4. '16, Wilson, H. W.

These revisions of the first edition of the children's catalog, published in 1909, have evidently been prepared in response to an urgent demand from library workers in all parts of the country. The old catalog is out of date and was rendered cumbersome by its arrangement in two alphabets, and by the inclusion of the St. Nicholas index.

The new catalogs are based on fifty-four selected library lists, and have been prepared after careful consideration of the answers to a questionnaire sent to many children's librarians. Miss Bacon has been fortunate in being able to add to her own experience in book selection, that of such collaborators as Miss Cowing of the Pratt Institute free library, Miss Hazeltine of the St. Louis public library, and the staff of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

The catalog of 1,000 titles with analytical entries for 212 volumes is necessarily too limited in scope for large libraries with separate children's rooms, but it will be most useful to small libraries and to parents and teachers as an up-to-date guide.

The catalog containing 2,000 titles and analyticals for 447 volumes has been practically tested in our children's room and found to answer most of the de-

mands, although for large collections the 3,500 list now in preparation (Wilson,\$6) will of course be more satisfactory. An effort has been made to omit out-of-date books or those where the information is buried in conversation, and to include more recent geographical and practical material. This principle could have been carried still further by the inclusion of more physical and commercial geographies. The questions now asked by school children demand indexes that will lead directly to up-to-date reliable facts. How well this demand has been met may be judged by a few titles taken at random from the 2,000 catalog:

Allen. Industrial studies. 22 analyticals.  
 Barstow. Progress of a united people. 24 analyticals.  
 Blaich. Three industrial nations. 15 analyticals.  
 Bond. Scientific American boy. 23 analyticals.  
 Cabot. Course in citizenship. 66 analyticals.  
 Carpenter. Foods. 36 analyticals.  
 Comstock. Pet book. 59 analyticals.  
 Du Puy. Uncle Sam's modern miracles. 22 analyticals.  
 Kelly. Three hundred things a bright girl can do. 53 analyticals.  
 Mowry. American inventions. 39 analyticals.

Books like the above answer a large proportion of our reference questions, and are made doubly valuable by analysis.

The make up of the volumes is excellent, the books open readily, publishers and prices are given, the annotations good, and the subject headings, based on Miss Mann's Subject headings for children's catalogs, are well chosen. There is included also a list of books about children's reading and a separate summary of "Aids to story telling" to which reference should have been made from the heading "Story-telling" in the main body of the catalogs. On the whole there is little to be desired, and the profession owes a debt of gratitude to Miss Bacon for supplying so indispensable a tool that will lessen the present duplication of effort and promote greater efficiency.

NELLIE M. DE LAUGHTER,  
 Carondelet branch,  
 St. Louis public library.

### An Interesting Exhibit

Mr J. C. Dana of the Public library of Newark, N. J., who is also the organizer of the art museum located in the library building and which has been largely developed under his fostering care, has sent out some very artistic notices of the changing exhibits of various kinds shown in the museum. Mr Dana is authority on artistic printing and notices which go out from both the library and the museum, are many times works of art.

A recent exhibit at the museum was one of black and white engravings by Ralph Ruzicka, perhaps the foremost artist among black and white engravers. At the request of the Carteret Book club of Newark, Mr Ruzicka collaborated with the club and illustrated a book relating to Newark. The book contains five large engravings in color and several smaller ones in black and white of Newark scenes. The Museum association, with this as a nucleus and with Mr Ruzicka's assistance, determined to make an exhibit of such engravings, including in it another group of Mr Ruzicka's engravings, making a history of the art from its beginning in the fifteenth century.

Mr W. W. Ivins, curator of prints at the Metropolitan museum, kindly lent illustrated books and engravings from his own collection and at the request of Mr Dana, wrote a brief survey of the art of wood engraving for distribution at the exhibit.

A small traveling exhibit of selections from the examples of Mr Ruzicka's work has been set aside for use as a traveling exhibit, which may be had on application to Mr J. C. Dana at the Newark Museum, Newark, N. J.

With a view to securing complete collections of material relating to local affairs the St. Paul Typothetae has recommended to its members that, with the permission of the authors, a copy of all publications of local institutions and societies printed by members, be sent to the secretary of the Typothetae and forwarded by him to the city library.

### Some Reports on State Work

The Free public library commission of Massachusetts has set forth some stimulating facts concerning library work in its twenty-seventh annual report. The Commission conference for library workers brought together at Simmons college in July, 113 trustees, librarians and assistants. Aid was extended to librarians in towns of less than a million dollars' valuation by the offer to pay for the traveling and entertainment of librarians who could not otherwise afford to attend the conference. Interest in frequent meetings of the local groups of librarians has greatly increased. The Commonwealth is divided into small sections in which small and large libraries are under the leadership of the librarian of a large library in the group. Throughout the Commonwealth, trustees and librarians, as well as school authorities, manifest enthusiasm in making available instruction in the use of the library, its catalog, classification and reference books to pupils in the public schools. After instruction at the school or in the library building, problems are worked out at the library and the results written out as part of school assignments. The Commission has sent demonstrators and instructors to towns in which librarians were not able to undertake it.

The work with the foreign-born has assisted librarians in 168 towns in a quiet, intelligent way in showing them how to fulfill their ambition for a better education and to secure greater opportunities for themselves and their families. The Commission has loaned 82 new traveling libraries to 45 towns in 13 languages. A total of 128 libraries are now in circulation. In coöperation with the Old South association, the Commission conducted 25 lectures in foreign languages (4 Greek, 1 Lithuanian, 18 Polish, 1 Portuguese and 1 Swedish) in order to acquaint the people with conditions and opportunities in this country. Miss Campbell prepared a list of desirable Russian books with titles transliterated and notes on

both author and the book, in English. This has been printed by the American library association.

The annual collections of books were presented to 104 libraries. Special books for work with schools, books on timely subjects were sent frequently during the year, also yearly subscriptions to several magazines to 78 libraries.

Thirteen libraries were recataloged under the direction of a Commission worker. Trustees have shown interest in having surveys made of their library work for improving its efficiency. Building committees come to consult the files of plans of successful buildings. Seven new library buildings have been erected. The agent took an exhibit of library work to several county fairs. The Commission paid the tuition of four assistant librarians at the summer session of the Simmons College library school. Through the Woman's Education association, 115 libraries were circulated, containing 4,228 volumes, making 141 visits to 119 towns and villages. During the year, visits were made to 150 libraries, varying in length from a few hours to several days. The report is illustrated with half-tone cuts of three successful buildings recently erected.

The Minnesota public library commission has issued its ninth biennial report.

In the advisory and instructional work for public libraries, the usual activities have been carried on including library visits, assistance in organizing, coöperation in meetings of state and district library, club and educational organizations, distribution of library publications, promotion of library publicity and encouragement of local enterprises.

The recent ruling of the State high school board that definite service must be provided for school libraries has caused a large increase in the number of Summer school students, and is raising the standard of service throughout the state.

Through the traveling library department, 651 regular stations have been served. The greatest increase is seen in individual loans which numbered 6,181, the total requests from all sources amounting to 8,343, and number of books loaned being 68,440.

The number of tax-supported libraries has been increased from 92 to 101. Including libraries maintained by clubs and associations, there are now 143 public libraries in the state, leaving only seven towns of more than 2000 people without a public library organization. An encouraging increase is seen in library appropriations and gifts.

Ten libraries are carrying on county extension work, and many others are extending their privileges to residents in the adjacent territory. Seven school library systems have been combined with public libraries during the biennium, making 11 which are carrying out this plan successfully. On the other hand nine school libraries are giving public library service.

The report of the Oregon state library is, as usual, full of interesting accounts of great activity for the period of the past two years.

During the last two years there have been 8,976 packages, with a total of 50,752 v., mailed in answer to 9,122 requests. In addition to this, and in reply to requests from organizations, 53,944 v. have been sent from the traveling library department to rural stations for relending throughout the country. The volumes loaned for the previous period numbered 64,176, as against a total of 104,696 for the last period. Number of volumes in library, 125,126.

The greatest increase has been made in the use of the library by the people in the small towns and rural districts. There are 72 debating teams throughout the state furnished with material. All but one of the public libraries of the state are centers through which local loans are distributed, some of them depending entirely upon the State library for books for serious study. "By means of inter-library loans, the library re-

sources have been mobilized to the greatest possible extent and more nearly approach the ideal of full library privileges for all, than does any other state system." The biennial appropriation for the State library is less than that of most county libraries and less than that of any other good State library. The report sets out the needs of the library for increased appropriation and additional employees. The libraries in the high schools of the state, own 73,622 v. The standard high schools of the state buy their books from the State school library list. The libraries in the state institutions have been organized with the assistance of the State library. A detailed report of the public libraries of the state is given in an appendix. The State library of Oregon is the supervisor of the standard public libraries in the state.

#### County library law of Texas

A county library law was passed by the legislature of Texas through the work of the Texas library association and the women's clubs. The following are the important points in the law:

The power to establish and maintain county libraries is vested in the county commissioner's court after an elective decision by a majority of the votes of the county. If the library vote defeats the measure in any election, no further election can be held until the lapse of two years. The commissioner's court appoints a librarian holding a certificate of qualifications for the office from the state board of library examiners also created by the act. This board consists of the state librarian, the librarian of the state university and three other librarians who are well known in the state, who shall be elected by the state librarian and the librarian of the state university. Successive members of the board shall be chosen by the remaining members in executive session. This board shall pass upon the qualifications of all persons desiring to become county librarians in the state and shall make and adopt rules for carrying out the purpose of the act.

The county free libraries of the state

shall be under the general supervision of the state librarian who shall make whatever rules and regulations are necessary to establish work in the library, its branches and stations throughout the county. The commissioner's court has power to levy a tax not to exceed five cents on the one hundred dollars on the property in the county outside all incorporated cities and towns already supporting a free library and upon such towns and cities that have elected to become part of the county library system. Provision is made for coöperating towns and cities to become part of the county library system and also to discontinue such connection after two years notification. Provision is also made by which two or more adjacent counties may join to receive privileges of a free library system. A county library may be disestablished on the petition of 500 or more voters in an election and the majority of votes in such an election shall determine further procedure.

The biennial report of the Free public library commission of Vermont, 1914-16, records five towns as having received \$100 in books as aid in the establishment of town libraries, and 117 gifts of \$25 in books to small and active town libraries as aid in maintenance. Four state institutions each received a share in \$400. The secretary and her assistant have organized 18 libraries and made 75 visits to 65 libraries. The Commission together with the Vermont library association, visited 22 out of 23 Teacher-training classes, and outlined courses for other classes. There were 18 exhibits at annual meetings of the commission, teachers' conventions, etc. Book lists on various subjects were prepared and distributed. There were 649 libraries and 201 picture collections sent from the traveling libraries department; also, 60 special collections. The greatest demand continues to come from the rural school teachers. The total number of books sent out was 24,025 and the total circulation was 45,631. Adults read 39% non-fiction and children 60%. Thirty out of forty-

six towns without libraries were reached and nine out of twelve towns in which the libraries are not free. Library day programs for schools have been made each year. The Vermont Federation of women's clubs has, each year, given a sum toward books for a school library. The Kellogg-Hubbard library has continued its loan of books to help supply special requests in the traveling library department.

### Illinois Library Notes

The House committee on education of the Illinois legislature, to which was referred the County library bill, held a hearing on March 7, at which the Illinois library association was represented by three members of the Legislative committee. The discussion of the provisions of the bill hinged mainly upon the advisability of submitting the question of the establishment of such a library to a vote of the people of the county. A sub-committee to which this matter was referred voted to incorporate such an amendment in the bill, which was accordingly done and it was so reported to the House.

The association's Legislative committee regret this decision in view of the delay involved. County elections are held biennially in November, too late for a tax to be spread the same year. Hence three or more years might elapse between the petition to the county board and the actual establishment of the library. It is hoped the bill may be passed finally without this amendment.

C. J. BARR,  
President.

In connection with the recent abandonment of circulations statistics in the Public library of Council Bluffs, Iowa, the librarian says:

What shall we lose? We shall not know the circulation of any particular class. We shall not know how many books on philosophy or fine arts have been issued during any period, but who ever wanted to know this anyway? If in all library history one such answer has been recorded, is the answer worth the cost? What do we gain? Time, time to do a few of the useful things that have been pushed out of sight by these rows and columns of figures.

### American Library Institute.

A meeting of the American Library Institute was held at Atlantic City on March 3, 1917. In addition to President E. C. Richardson, the following Fellows were present: C. W. Andrews, W. Austen, R. R. Bowker, W. N. C. Carlton, W. P. Cutter, J. C. Dana, M. S. Dudgeon, G. S. Godard, C. H. Gould, F. P. Hill, H. L. Koopman, A. Strohm, G. B. Utley and G. P. Winship. As the meeting was an open one a large number of visitors were present at both sessions. The program of the morning session was as follows:

President address: Some archive libraries in the Fourteenth century B. C.

Tasso's copy of Horace—Harry Lyman Koopman.

Progress of work upon the public records and archives of Connecticut as being accomplished by and through the Connecticut state library—Geo. S. Godard.

Bibliographical and descriptive note on the *Journal of the Pennsylvania Assembly, 1776-90*—A. H. Shearer.

Two Garrett manuscripts—C. C. Mierow and H. T. Weiskotten.

Sketch of the history of the A. L. I.—Miss M. E. Ahern.

The afternoon session was given up entirely to the discussion and reading of notes on various phases of the general topic of "The care and use of special research collections." Among the subjects discussed or contributed to in writing were:

Location of special research collections and local centers of special study—Introduced by J. C. Bay and C. W. Andrews. Housing and Caring for Americana—Introduced by W. N. C. Carlton. Care of coins, engravings, etc.—J. C. M. Hanson. Using American incunabula: the Joint list—G. P. Winship. Ready filing of sub-pamphlet material—A. E. Bostwick. Postcards, bookplates, photostat, maps—B. C. Steiner, Miss C. M. Hewins. The possession of books once stolen—L. N. Wilson. Poster collections—C. K. Bolton. Destructiveness of white ants—S. H. Ranck.

Participation in the discussion was general and animated.

The new Institute Board was com-

pleted through the election of the following members:

A. E. Bostwick, C. H. Gould, A. Keogh, and H. C. Wellman. The other members are E. C. Richardson, W. N. C. Carlton and Mary Eileen Ahern.

The following were elected Fellows of the Institute:

J. C. Bay, Walter L. Brown (re-elected), L. J. Burpee, Miss M. E. Hazeltine (re-elected), Prof. M. Jastrow, Jr., J. T. Gerould, G. M. Jones (re-elected), G. H. Locke, Charles Martel, H. H. B. Meyer, T. L. Montgomery (re-elected), C. B. Roden.

### Publications of A. L. I.

The following publications are all that have been issued at any time by the Institute:

- 1) American Library Institute. Papers and subjects for discussion at the meeting in New York City, September 27, 28, 1911. Newark, N. J.
- 2) American Library Institute. Papers and discussions at the meeting at Kaaterskill, N. Y., June 25, 1913. Chicago, 1913. 2+28p.
- 3) American Library Institute. Proceedings of the meeting at New York City, December 1, 1913. Chicago, 1914. 2+14p.
- 4) American Library Institute. Proceedings at the Atlantic City meeting, 1915. Chicago, 1915. 16p.
- 5) American Library Institute. Papers and proceedings at the Atlantic City meeting, 1916. Chicago, 1916. 187 p.

The various leaflets, programmes and preprints prepared for the meetings are no longer available.

A few copies of the proceedings of the Kaaterskill meeting, June 25, 1913, are still in the hands of the secretary of the Institute.

The remaining copies of the "Papers and Proceedings" of the Atlantic City meeting, 1916, may be secured from the secretary of the A. L. A., 78 East Washington street, Chicago, Illinois, at \$2 a copy.

W. N. C. CARLTON,  
Secretary.

A question that should be asked about the ventilating system of every library is: "Does it ventilate?" What shall it profit a librarian if he give a book to every person in the town and lose his own health?

**A. L. A. Notes****Louisville conference**

The local organizations in Louisville, interested in the success of the A. L. A. meeting, are making every effort for the cordial reception and comfort of those who may attend the meeting to be held in Louisville, June 21-27.

Various committees have been named and will give prompt attention to any business that comes before them. An attendance of not less than 1,200 is expected. Ample hotel accommodations have been provided, using The Seelbach as headquarters, Hotel Henry Watterson just across the street and The Tyler three blocks away. There have been 615 rooms reserved in all. In addition, 200 rooms at other hotels are at the disposal of the local committee.

The main dining room on the first floor of The Seelbach will be reserved exclusively for A. L. A. guests, and the mezzanine will be used as registration headquarters. The parlor floors and assembly rooms of the three hotels are for A. L. A. use during the week, for social entertainments, conference meetings, etc. Rooms for special library exhibits have been reserved at the headquarters hotel. Arrangement for space must be made direct with The Seelbach.

Macauley's theater, the local, principal playhouse, has been reserved for general and social sessions. The theater is just across the street from The Seelbach. Admission to Macauley's theater and the social entertainments at The Seelbach, will be by card, which will be given to the members upon registering.

**Hotel rates**

Seelbach. Rooms with bath, double bed, \$2-\$5, for one person. For two persons \$1 additional for \$2 rooms and \$1.50 additional for other rooms.

Rooms without bath, double bed \$1.50-\$2.50 for one person. For two persons, \$1 additional.

Rooms reserved for the morning of the twenty-first will be charged for beginning with the evening of the twentieth. This is to guarantee the room will be ready for occupancy on arrival.

Watterson. Rooms with bath, single, \$1.50; double bed, \$2-\$3 for one person.

For two persons, \$1 additional; two beds, \$1.75 for each person.

Rooms without bath, single, \$1; double, \$1 each person.

Tyler. Rooms with bath, single \$1.50-\$2.50. Double, \$1.25-\$1.50 each person.

Assignments to rooms and correspondence concerning hotel reservations will be handled by a local rooming committee. In order to afford equal opportunity to all, applications for rooms received before Monday, April 23, will be considered as received on that date. Letters addressed to the hotels will be referred to the committee. The rooming committee asks that before reservations are made, members arrange to share their rooms and advise the committee with whom they would be pleased to room. Members preferring to stay at private boarding houses and members who expect to stay with friends or who secure accommodations otherwise, are requested to notify the local committee of their plans, so that full advance information may be on hand at headquarters and the name may appear in the advance register of attendance. All correspondence relative to reservation of rooms should be addressed to George T. Settle, secretary, Local A. L. A. committee, Public library, Louisville, Ky.

Baggage tags on which the name of the Louisville hotel should be written, will be forwarded to each person making hotel reservation, to insure prompt delivery to hotels.

Louisville is well supplied with restaurants in the immediate neighborhood of the hotels. Both *a la carte* and regular service will be given at the hotels.

**Recreations**

The social clubs are open to visitors through the courtesy of the members. Tennis clubs, golf links, and boat clubs are also at the service of the visitors.

The social program includes addresses of welcome by the Governor of Kentucky and the Mayor of Louisville, a reception, a concert and an entertainment by local authors and musicians, A. L. A. ball, boat ride on the Ohio, or automobile ride through Louisville's beautiful parks, a woman's club tea, and the local artists' exhibit for A. L. A. visitors at the li-

brary. Many interesting trips by automobile, trolley, rail or river to historic and beautiful points in the neighborhood of Louisville may be enjoyed.

Communications concerning the A. L. A. program and general affairs of the conference, should be addressed to the American Library Association, 78 East Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

#### Rates

There are no summer excursion rates to Louisville available, except from points in the South. From such points regular excursion tickets may be had, good returning until October, at about 20% less than the regular fare. Special round trip tickets, good going and returning by the same route, have been granted by the Central and Trunk Line passenger associations, based on a 2c a mile charge, and the return must be completed by midnight of June 30.

A party of 10 or more traveling together, can obtain the same rate, going and returning by different routes, and not be subject to the limitation of returning June 30.

A special train, comprised of compartment, observation and dining cars, from Albany, will be provided for the Eastern party leaving Boston June 20, joined later by the New York party. Special parties from Chicago and St. Louis will be formed and those who wish to travel together, forming a party of 10 or more, can secure the reduced rates.

A prospect of an unusually large attendance from the South is reported by Mr Settle. Mr C. H. Milam of the Public library, Birmingham, Ala., has been made travel secretary for the South.

#### Post conference

A post conference trip will be made to Mammoth cave, Kentucky, White Sulphur Springs, Richmond, James River and Old Point Comfort, with side trips to Hampton, Norfolk and the harbor. From here the return may be made to New York, Boston and Washington, by boat by those who desire to do so. The expense of the Old Point Comfort trip, exclusive of railway and steamer fares, covering Pullmans, meals, hotels, stop-

overs, transfers and boat trip on the James River, will be \$27.

Full particulars of routes, rates and program will be given in the May number of the *A. L. A. Bulletin*.

#### A Chicago Meeting of Interest

The Advertising association of Chicago has called a conference of all the librarians of public and semi-public libraries in the Middle West to be held in Chicago, April 25. Presidents of library boards and presidents of local chambers of commerce will be invited to meet with them. The object will be to devise methods and to find means for advertising public libraries and the books and other attractions which they offer for the free use of all the people. The conference is the project of the educational committee of the Chicago club, of which Mr W. Frank McClure is chairman. The object is to bring closer relations and coöperation between the library, advertising and business men of the various localities.

#### Information Desired

A note from Mr Robert K Shaw, librarian of the Public library of Worcester, Massachusetts, speaks of the greater opportunity for library service that has come to that library by his membership in the local Rotary club. This has taken the shape of an address on the library at one of the noonday luncheons where lists of books on business were distributed. Among other things undertaken was a circular letter seeking coöperation from the business firms of Worcester which ran as follows:

As this library desires to keep up to date on books relating to manufactures and other industries of our city, we beg to inquire if you know of any recent publications in your line, probably not now on our shelves, but likely to interest our patrons, particularly the mechanics or other shop workers, salesmen or clerks of our city. If so, will you kindly list title or titles on enclosed card?

Mr Shaw asks that others interested in the Rotary club in any other part of the country, will communicate with him and give him their opinions of further opportunities for usefulness on the part of librarians in relation to this efficient organization.

### Library meetings

**Chicago**—The Chicago library club met on March 8, at the Harper library of the University of Chicago.

The departure of C. J. Barr, to become assistant librarian of Yale university was announced and good wishes expressed.

Dr James R. Angell, head of the department of psychology, and Dean of the Graduate school of the University of Chicago, addressed the club on "The librarian as intermediary between the public and the expert." His observation of libraries in small towns and cities had led him to believe that librarians need expert advice in the selection of books for purchase. He was amazed to see libraries of limited means stocked with quack and unscientific works. As a specialist in psychology he would be willing to give time to criticise new books and to say which were suitable for library purchase.

In the discussion which followed, Miss Birge spoke of the practice of the *A. L. A. Booklist* in getting expert opinions on books on engineering, agriculture and some other subjects.

Miss Forrest and others referred to the personal tastes of members of library boards as responsible for the unwise and disproportionate selection of books.

Mr Hanson, associate librarian of the University of Chicago, expressed the opinion that libraries should pay experts for their services in selecting books, that such busy men should not be asked to give hours of valuable service without compensation. MARGARET RIDLON,

**Massachusetts**—About 70 members and friends of the Western Massachusetts library club gathered in the West Springfield public library, February 21, 1917, for the usual mid-winter meeting of the club. After an address by Winthrop S. Bagg of the Board of Trustees of the library, a short business session was held. A protest against the confirmation of Foster W. Stearns as State librarian of Massachusetts was sent to the Executive council. After the business meeting a discussion of the books of 1916 was held,

the basis for discussion being the annual booklist prepared by various club members.

The address of the morning was given by Mr Walter Briggs of the Harvard University library on "The trail of the magazine," in which he traced the development of the magazine to the present day.

Dr Neil McPherson of Springfield was the speaker of the afternoon, his subject being "Nietzsche and the war."

GEORGINA E. CARR,

**Pennsylvania**—The meeting of The Pennsylvania library club held on January 8, 1917, was attended by a very large and interested audience, who were delighted with the splendid, illustrated talk about the "Excavations of the American school at Corinth," by Stephen Bleeker Luce, Jr., Ph.D., who, having been a member of the college, was in a position to give authoritative information. The pictures, which were wonderfully interesting and instructive, were taken by Dr Luce, himself, during his recent stay in Corinth.

The description of the work of the library, which plays by no means an unimportant part in the work, was of course interesting to those present.

Not the least interesting part of the evening was the opportunity to talk with Dr Luce at the informal reception.

The third meeting of the season was held February 13, 1917, at which time Dr John Chalmers DaCosta presented "The personal side of Samuel Pepys" in his own truly inimicable manner, bringing with the recollections of the days of Charles II, a very intimate realization of how the hours of the companions of the Merry Monarch were spent, making us once more familiar, in imagination, with "Woods' Coffee House" in Pall Mall, etc., etc.

JEAN E. GRAFFEN,

### Coming meetings

Ohio library association, Toledo, October 16-18.

The New York state library association will hold its annual meeting at the Lakewood Farm Inn, Sept. 17-22.

**Atlantic City Meetings****Pennsylvania**

The twenty-first annual meeting of librarians at Atlantic City gave both profit and pleasure to the 275 attending the sessions. As is usual, the weather was abominable but, also as usual, the Hotel Chelsea was a most hospitable place even in stormy weather and the company was comfortable and happy.

The Pennsylvania meeting opened on Saturday morning, March 3, with a greeting from the president, John Ashhurst, librarian of the Free public library of Philadelphia.

In his address Mr Ashhurst called attention to the increased interest in books of international questions, foreign histories and manners and customs of foreign people. The call in his own library reached 2,600,000v., in 1916, and similar experiences prevailed in other libraries in Pennsylvania. In addition to books on history, books on efficiency and vocational training were, also, much in demand.

Dr George P. Donehoo, secretary of the Pennsylvania state historical commission, gave a talk on "Indians of Pennsylvania and New Jersey and the literature concerning them." Dr Donehoo has a very good list of books about these particular tribes which he will be glad to furnish to any one who may be interested.

Edward J. Nolan, M. D., Sc. D., librarian and secretary of the Academy of natural sciences of Philadelphia, was most interesting in his recitals of his recollections of the earlier meetings of the A. L. A. and other library meetings through the country. Dr Nolan began his talk with an account of his experiences at library meetings from the Centennial conference of librarians in Philadelphia in 1876. His account of the proceedings of the 1876 meeting was most touching. At this meeting he was the sixth on the attendance registry, only three of those in advance of him being now alive: Melvil Dewey, Charles Evans and William T. Peoples. In telling his story, Dr Nolan selected rather the humorous incidents than the serious proceedings because the latter

are sufficiently reported in the library journals.

The characteristics of W. F. Poole, Justin Winsor, Melvil Dewey, S. S. Green, L. P. Smith, Charles Cutter, R. R. Bowker and William Kite, were good naturedly indicated mainly in connection with the debate on the use of fiction in public libraries, one of the notable features of that first meeting.

Speaking of the Boston meeting of 1879, he recounted his meeting with R. C. Winthrop, C. F. Adams, Judge Chamberlain, T. W. Higginson and E. E. Hale. Mr Longfellow took tea with the librarians in Memorial hall, Cambridge, "reminding one a little bit of the Homer of the Naples museum, although he was far from blind." Beyond this galaxy of authors, stood out the two brilliant Irishmen, Robert Joyce and John Boyle O'Reilly, without whom after all, Boston culture would not have reached its exploited culmination.

Affectionate character sketches of a number of the members who were gathered at the early conferences, greatly interested the listeners.

The time assigned Dr Nolan was not sufficient to do more than touch on subsequent meetings, including the International conferences of London and Brussels.

In an address, H. W. Hess, professor of commerce at the University of Pennsylvania, on Advertising the library, said that it was part of the business of the library to make known to the public how far it was prepared to meet the demands of its readers. Miss Anna A. MacDonald of the State library at Harrisburg, gave a most interesting address on "A library for the state at large," in which she gave resumé of the founding, activities, undertakings and timely aid of the department of traveling libraries.

The usual delightful tea was given by the Atlantic City public library and was much enjoyed, despite the rain on Saturday afternoon. The dance on Saturday night went on merrily until a late hour.

JEAN E. GRAFFEN.

### The Journey of the A. L. A. to Louisville

The meeting of the A. L. A. at Louisville, Ky., opens up to the librarians from every part of the country an opportunity to see what is undoubtedly an interesting region, physically, historically but particularly in a literary way. Hardly within the memory of the great majority of the A. L. A. members has the association come into the region where it will be taken this time.

Those from the East will have the chance to see the state of Ohio, through which a stream from New England and one from the Cumberland Gap, met and mingled, bringing to the fore the best traditions of both localities, producing in real natives of Ohio a class of substantial high-minded citizenship, which has contributed to the upbuilding of the country in every way. Ohio competes with Virginia for the title of "The mother of presidents."

Those from the Northwest will traverse the full length of the state of Indiana to reach Louisville and it is possible to go thru a region in the western part of the state which is hardly surpassed outside of the real mountainous country for scenery, historical grounds and educational centers. The delectable George Ade, a few years ago, described this region in a little "Hoosier handbook," and some of the best work of John T. McCutcheon has been done in representing the various phases of the life as it appears here and there throughout the locality.

In the northern part of the state are a number of beautiful lakes. In the region of Lafayette are the battlefields made famous by the Indian war, when the Indians led by Tecumseh met and fought with the white people under General Harrison for the last time in the beautiful Tippecanoe region.

At Lafayette, is Purdue university, one of the best known technical schools in the country with both national and state support.

Between Lafayette and Crawfordsville are the wonderful black walnut forests, the last of their kind in the

country, with scenery that has been compared to that to be found in eastern Pennsylvania. Near here on his magnificent estate, lives the Bard of Alamo, whose contributions to the *New York Sun* are so early "swallowed" by its unsophisticated readers. He contributed to American literature the immortal couplet,

Then I heard a poor man say,  
Cut, oh, cut my leg away.

At Crawfordsville, is Wabash college, a leading Presbyterian school which has furnished a number of leading members of the A. L. A. The efficient director of the New York public library is an alumnus of the institution.

A little further south in an equally beautiful country is Greencastle, which for many years held the leading Methodist school in the Middle West under the name of Asbury college, now known as Depauw university. Graduates of this school have gone out in the Methodist fashion, "to teach all nations."

The region between Greencastle and Bloomington contains the numerous noted Cataract falls and the most beautiful scenery (It was in this region that the Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES learned to walk alone).

At Bloomington, is the State University of Indiana with 5,000 students and a library that is well worth special mention if one were on a library pilgrimage.

From Bloomington south for 100 miles or so are to be found the celebrated Bedford stone quarries, too well known the world over for more than mention. Also here are the celebrated French Lick springs, where the luxurious are quartered in the Taggart hotels and the marvelous effective healing qualities of diabolically tasting waters attract people with money from all over the world.

A little distance from here is Corydon, the first capital of the state to which the early settlers from the Carolinas, Virginia and Kentucky came with a home-like feeling because of the resemblance of the "Knobs" country, as

it is known, to the region from which they came.

Then Louisville, set on her hills, with her beautiful parks, her clean streets, her energetic people! Here will be something in which those with an appreciation of the true, the good and the beautiful will find their soul's delight.

It must be said in all fairness that if one wished one might come to Louisville through the central and the eastern parts of the state, which display a variety of region for which one must have a special liking to draw from it any particular pleasure in traveling. Sandy plains in the northern part are not particularly inspiring on a hot day. Fertile fields of growing grain, the rich meadows with their something less than a thousand cattle, the quickly built manufacturing towns with a larger foreign population than any of them have been able yet to assimilate present nothing that is not found everywhere.

#### Interesting Things in Print

The library of Tacoma, Wash., has issued a reference list on "Accident prevention and safety first."

The State library of Oregon, Salem, recently has issued an Index to short stories, as *School Circular No. 9*. It is classified by subjects.

Two lists of "Books about business" have been recently issued, one by the Public library of South Bend, Ind., and the other by the Public library of Cambridge, Mass.

An outline of a proposed Library reading-circle, carried on by Texas librarians, under the direction of Octavia F. Rogan of the Texas library and historic committee, is given in the January number of *Texas Libraries*.

The Town Criers' club of St. Paul, Minn., has compiled an "Index to recent books and articles in magazines of interest to business men" for the Business men's division of the St. Paul library.

A study outline of contemporary

American literature has been prepared by Anna L. Guthrie and is issued in the *Study Series* by the H. W. Wilson Company. As a handbook for study clubs and high school students, the outline is especially valuable.

"The practical use of books and libraries—an elementary manual" by Gilbert O. Ward, has been revised, enlarged and published in a third edition by the Boston Book Company. The manual is intended to provide elementary instruction for young persons and to serve as an outline for teachers who have to give school instruction.

The H. W. Wilson Company have just issued *Debaters' Handbooks on Immigration* (2nd ed.); *Minimum Wage*; *Military training in schools and colleges*, including military camps.

The price for these each, as well as the price of all volumes in the *Debaters' Handbook series* and the *Handbook series*, has been advanced from \$1 to \$1.25.

The Provincial library of Victoria, B. C., has begun the publication of a series of bulletins which are to act as guides to the contents of the library with the object of making its resources better known. Bulletin No. 1 is a Bibliography of the publications of the war compiled by Mr John Forsyth of the catalog department. The bibliography is arranged according to the subject with an author and subject index.

*American Industries* for January has a most unusual and interesting article on Public libraries and business men, by Adelaide R. Hasse, chief of the document division of the New York public library. The thesis of the presentation is a direct appeal for coöperation in making the public library more efficient in its operation and more specifically useful to the live business men of the place, a class from which it derives large financial support.

The fact that 69 meetings were scheduled to be held in the Public library of St. Louis in the week of February 25, was made the subject of a very commendatory editorial in the St. Louis

*Republic* of that date. It was very aptly stated that the "library has set an excellent example in teaching the value of free and undisturbed discussion for there is no better way to further a good cause and let a bad one evaporate, than to give everybody a chance to talk."

The *Journal* of the National education association for February contains the papers given in the department of secondary education. Among these are: The library in the modern high school, by W. M. Davidson, superintendent of schools, Pittsburgh, Pa.; The need for better high school libraries, by Charles H. Johnston, University of Illinois; The high school library and vocational and technical courses, by William D. Hood, principal, Winsted, Conn.; Library administration, by Mary Sullivan, teacher of English, Pittsburgh, Pa.; and Report of committee on problems of high school libraries, by C. C. Certain, chairman.

The United States bureau of mines has the following new publications for distribution.

Bulletin 122, Principles and practice of sampling metallic metallurgical materials.

Bulletin 128, Refining and utilization of Georgia kaolins.

Technical paper 137, Combustion in the fuel bed of hand-fired furnaces.

Technical paper 138, Suggested safety rules for installing and using electrical equipment in bituminous coal mines.

Technical paper 164, Accidents at metallurgical works in the United States during the calendar year 1915.

Miners' circular 23, Elementary first aid for the miner.

A collection of books in the Pratt Institute free library has been set aside under the name of the Alcove. It is designed to bring into inviting and convenient prominence certain of the outstanding books in the English language, by ancient, modern and present day writers, in order that anyone using the library may preserve a familiar acquaintance with books that

have gained preëminence in literature. The books represent every range of talent and they stand on the shelves with no idea of relationship or classification. Lists of these books have been prepared with the general public in mind for the purpose of giving a revival of interest in books of enduring reputation. The price of the list is 10c.

The February number of the *Bulletin* of the University of North Dakota is made up of discussions of library topics. It contains two papers prepared by C. W. Sumner, librarian of the University of North Dakota.

The first, The state wide use of the University library, describes the extension of library service throughout the state, through schools, clubs and other agencies. The second paper, The demand for the teacher-librarian, treats of the need of a better realization on the part of the teachers, of the need of better selection, better organization and better administration for school libraries.

The March number of the *Bulletin* of the Public affairs information service (H. W. Wilson Co.), is devoted exclusively to a digest of the recent messages of the governors in 38 states. In a few instances the messages of the retiring governors have been included.

#### International Day—May 18

A request has come from the secretary of the School league on Internationalism in the N. E. A. to the children's librarians over the country for some sort of joint recognition of International day, May 18 this year. The idea is to create in the minds of American young people, a sense of justice and fair play for other young people of alien birth who are in no way to blame for the misunderstanding of their elders.

Mrs Fannie Fern Andrews, Boston, will be glad to co-operate in the way of material, etc., with any librarian who wishes to introduce the young people of the children's department to the idea of internationalism.

**Library Schools****Carnegie library, Atlanta**

Miss Gertrude Stiles, supervisor of binding of the Cleveland public library, gave a series of lectures to the school during the week of February 19 on binding and mending and the general care of books in a library. On Wednesday afternoon, February 21, Miss Stiles gave a lecture before the class and a small company of invited guests on artistic book-bindings illustrated with stereopticon slides. After the lecture, tea was served in the class room so that the guests might have the pleasure of meeting Miss Stiles.

The class gave a Valentine party on Friday evening, February 9, to the faculty and library staff.

The students have been interested in arranging a series of bulletins for the loan department of the library calling attention to special classes of books. Two students work together, choosing the subject, selecting the books for display and collecting the illustrative material.

Vera Southwick, '14, was married to Dewitt Clinton Cooper of Greenfield, Indiana, at the home of her father in Atlanta on February 20, 1917. Mr and Mrs Cooper will be at home in Greenfield, Indiana, after March 13.

TOMMIE DORA BARKER,  
Director.

**Carnegie library school**

The resignation of Harrison W. Craver, librarian of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh and director of the Carnegie library school was announced in February to become effective April 1. Mr Craver is succeeded in both offices by John H. Leete, formerly dean of the Carnegie technical schools.

George B. Utley, secretary of the American library association, lectured February 28 on the work of the association.

A course of four lectures on normal school libraries was given, March 6-8, by Willis H. Kerr, librarian of the State normal school library, Emporia, Kansas.

Jean Hamilton, National secretary,

National league for women workers, gave a talk, March 14, on Social centers.

"The relation between the library and civic institutions" and "Work with children from the standpoint of the chief librarian" were the subjects of two lectures given March 15, by Dr Frank P. Hill, librarian of the Public library, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Edith C. C. Balderston, '12-13, has resigned as children's librarian of the Free library of Philadelphia to accept a similar position in the Brooklyn public library.

Edith Endicott, '12-13, has resigned her position of assistant in the children's department of the New York public library.

Martha Elizabeth English, '12-13, has resigned her position of children's librarian in the Brooklyn public library to become children's librarian in the Carnegie library of Homestead.

Marie Louise Fisher, '10, has resigned as children's librarian of the Lawrenceville branch of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh and has been made first assistant of the same branch.

Helen Edith McCracken, '15, has resigned as assistant-in-charge of the children's room, Soho Bath settlement, Pittsburgh, to become children's librarian of the Wylie Avenue branch of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Elizabeth Nixon, '11-12, has resigned from her position of assistant in the office of the Educational secretary, Board of Foreign Missions, New York City.

Ellen W. Peckham, '15-16, has resigned from the children's department of the Brooklyn public library to accept a position in the Public library of East Orange, N. J.

Grace Shellenberger, '12-13, who has been children's librarian of the Public library, Des Moines, Iowa, has been appointed supervising librarian of Institution libraries of Iowa.

Katherine Howes Wead, '09-10, has resigned her position of cataloger in the Bureau of plant industry, Department of agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Lida Byron Young, '12-14, formerly assistant in the Carnegie library school, has been made assistant-in-charge of the children's room of the Soho Bath settlement, Pittsburgh.

SARAH C. N. BOGLE,  
Principal.

**Drexel school**

The dinner of the Drexel Institute Library School alumni association in connection with the twenty-first annual meeting of the New Jersey library asso-

ciation and the Pennsylvania library club was held at the Hotel Chelsea on March 3, 1917. Twenty-three were present. The guests were Miss Reed, Miss Graffin, Miss Wallis, Miss Brown, and Mr Faxon.

Miss Josephine O'Flynn, Drexel '09, died on Feb. 15, 1917. Prior to entering Drexel library school, Miss O'Flynn was connected with the Public library of Detroit for several years. After graduating, she returned to the Detroit public library. Later she was appointed librarian of the Catholic historical society of Philadelphia. In 1915, she resigned to return to Detroit and become the librarian of the Detroit Bar association, which position she held until her death.

Miss Millie M. Smith, Drexel '09, has resigned her position in the cataloging and reference department of the Cincinnati public library to become the librarian of the Toledo University library.

KATHERINE M. TRIMBLE,  
Secretary.

#### University of Illinois

During the week of February 5, 36 members of the Library school, under the direction of Miss Bond and Miss Vought, made their customary biennial visit to the libraries and kindred interests of Chicago and vicinity. On the afternoon of February 8, the entire party were the guests of the David Cook Publishing Co. at Elgin, visiting the company's plant, including the editorial rooms of the various publications issued by that company.

On the morning of March 2, Monsieur Jean A. Picard, a member of the French publishing house of that name, and connected also with Charles Scribner's Sons of New York, gave an interesting, informal address to the members of the school. Monsieur Picard talked particularly of the increasing demand for information regarding the French people, their literature, art and institutions in general, and gave some excellent suggestions as to the various methods of meeting that demand.

Mrs Edna Lyman Scott gave her usual course of lectures, lasting for five weeks, meeting the seniors every day for an hour's conference regarding the work with children and children's literature, and the juniors, twice a week. Mrs Scott's engagement closed on March 16.

Elizabeth Henry, a member of the senior class, has withdrawn for the second semester on account of poor health, and plans to return a year from now to complete the course and receive her degree.

FRANCES SIMPSON,  
Assistant-director.

#### Pratt institute

This is the third year that we have been privileged to take the school to visit the Morgan library, and, as on previous occasions, the students enjoyed the rare pleasure of seeing and handling books and manuscripts valuable for association, age, rarity, or beauty. Every moment was made to yield the utmost of pleasure and value. The Shakespeare folios lay open on one table, another held the great landmarks of the history of printing, and in the manuscript room the students reveled in the opportunity of coming into actual touch with favorite authors through their written word. To take into one's hand Burns' letters, Dickens' Christmas carol, the Rose and the ring with the text illustrated by Thackeray's own drawings is almost like meeting them face to face. One gets a thrill that nothing else can give.

Thanks to the courtesy of the Brooklyn public library, the class attended a delightful party at the Bedford branch on the evening of Thursday, February 15. The gathering was addressed by Mr John Foster Carr, who spoke on "Libraries and the immigrant."

The visiting lecturers since our last report have been Mrs Adelaide B. Maltby, librarian of the Tompkins Square branch of the New York public library, who spoke on the relation of the branch library to its neighborhood. Mr Andrew Keogh, librarian of Yale university, on the Administrative problems of a college library, Miss Mary E. Hall, librarian of the Girls' high-school, on High-school

library work, Mr Utley, secretary of the American library association, on the work of the association, and Professor William Lyon Phelps of Yale university, who lectured before the whole Institute on "Representative American character."

The class enjoyed an interesting lecture on Russian libraries given by their class-mate, Miss Matilda Livshitz, on Wednesday evening, February 7. The basis of Miss Livshitz's talk were slides furnished by the courtesy of the Library school at Albany, illustrating a lecture on Russian libraries which Mme Hamburger of Petrograd gave at Albany a year or two ago.

Miss Gibbes and Miss Hopkins, who have charge of the Music school at the Greenpoint settlement, invited the students to a patriotic entertainment at their studio on Washington's birthday. Pupils from the Music school played on the piano and violin, and then all joined in singing the national songs of the allied countries.

The vice-director spoke before the New Jersey high school librarians' association on Saturday, February 17, at the Central high school of Newark, on the subject of "Illustrated editions for high school libraries."

The spring trip this year will be to a group of New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland libraries, including Princeton, Trenton, Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Hagerstown and Carlisle.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,  
Vice-director.

#### St. Louis library school

Beginning with the opening of the school session of 1917-'18, in October next, the training class of the St. Louis public library will assume the name and status of the St. Louis library school. The class has been for some time furnishing training of library-school grade, and the only changes that will be necessary are to strengthen, and increase the teaching and administrative force and to amplify the courses of instruction, especially in the direction of teaching comparative methods.

Pupils will be received regardless of

locality and will not be limited as hitherto to persons intending to enter the service of the St. Louis public library. While this is true, the fact that this will be one of the only two schools operated in direct connection with a large city public library will make it a particularly desirable place of training to emphasize this connection and to specialize in all those particulars that tend to make the work of an assistant valuable and effective in a library of this kind and grade.

While it is not to be expected, therefore, that pupils in the St. Louis library school will consist wholly of those who expect to do work in the larger systems, and while the curriculum will contain features making it attractive and valuable to those who are looking forward to service in southwestern libraries of small or medium size, it is believed that the scope of the St. Louis system, with its branches of widely differing character will be calculated to furnish a kind of training not available out of contact with these conditions.

It is not however with the thought of competition or supersession that a new library school is established in St. Louis, but rather with the desire to throw open more widely opportunities hitherto offered to a few, and to broaden and render more valuable those opportunities in the field already occupied.

The first descriptive and explanatory handbook of the school is now in preparation and will contain full details.

The Director of the school will be Dr Arthur E. Bostwick, librarian of the St. Louis public library, and its Principal and active head will be Mrs Harriet P. Sawyer, under whom the work of raising the standard of the class to library-school grade has gone on during the past six years. Her chief assistant, Mrs P. F. Drury (formerly Miss Gertrude M. Gilbert), New York State library school, 1911, has already entered on her duties and will take active part in preparing for the changes that will occur formally in October next. The quarters occupied by the school in the Central building of the Public library will be somewhat enlarged.

**Simmons college**

The February library visit was to the Brookline public library, always one of the most interesting of the year. The students have also been invited to attend several exhibits displayed recently at that library and at the Boston Athenaeum.

Visitors of the month have included Mr Frank Chase of the Boston public library, who spoke on The problems of an art department, and on The bibliography of art books; Miss Annie Carroll Moore, on Children's work in the New York public library; Mr Utley, who was making his first visit to the Simmons library school. He spoke of the A. L. A., its history and accomplishment. Miss Jones on March 12, spoke of The library of institutions, from her experience at that at Waverley.

A group of visitors whom the college was especially glad to welcome was the Massachusetts High-school principals, who met, at the call of Mr Kingsley, of the State Board of Education, for one session at Simmons on Friday, March 16. Mr Kingsley is also a member of the committee of the Massachusetts library club on High school libraries, and he generously gave representation on the program to the topic of high school libraries. Mr Davis of Grand Rapids, and Mr Husic and others spoke from the school point of view, Miss Jordan for the committee, and Miss Donnelly on the question of training for high school librarians.

The N. E. A. had been good enough to loan their exhibit on the rooms and equipment of high school libraries, and the scrapbooks showing how the library can aid various school departments. This was supplemented by exhibits of equipment by the Library Bureau and Brown-Howland, and by pictures and books from the Boston, Brookline and Simmons libraries.

The exhibit was borrowed primarily for the use of the College course in High school libraries, but was open to inspection to teachers during its stay of several weeks.

In the History of libraries course the

school is indebted to the Brookline library for the loan of pictures and of specimens of cuneiform tablets, and very deeply to the Boston public library for an exhibit they prepared in the Barton room of reproductions of manuscripts, as well as for their usual loan of collateral reading to the Simmons college as a deposit station.

Among the gifts of the month those of Mr Gardner M. Jones, of duplicate sets of periodical library economy publications, was of especial use to the Library school, and the College library appreciated a gift of a subscription to the *National Geographic Magazine* which marked the establishment of a new Simmons club in Washington, D. C. The students of the children's course had the privilege, through the kindness of Miss Jordan, of attending several of Miss Shedlock's story-telling hours, given at Mrs Kehew's.

Alice Higgins, Simmons '06, has resigned from the Somerville library, to accept the position of classifier in the Boston Athenaeum.

Margaret Richardson, '10-'11, is cataloger and assistant in charge of the branch work, Umatilla County library, Pendleton, Oregon.

Helen Carleton, Simmons '14, has been appointed librarian, Brooklyn branch, Portland, Oregon.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,  
Director.

**Syracuse university**

Miss Effie L. Power, supervisor of work with children in the Carnegie library, Pittsburgh, gave two lectures before the school on Wednesday, March 21. Her subjects were "Library work with schools" and "Literature for children." In the course of her lectures Miss Powers explained the new plans and methods of work with schools which she has originated and is now carrying out in Pittsburgh.

Prof Wong of the University of Pekin recently addressed the students of the library school on the "Literature of China and its conservation."

Miss Elizabeth E. Gidley, librarian at North Dartmouth, Massachusetts, is taking special work for the second semester in children's work and book selection.

On the evening of Saturday, March 10, Pi Lambda Sigma, a sorority consisting of students in library science, will hold its annual banquet at the Wolcott.

Miss Ethel Knight has resigned from her position in the United States Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.

Two recent marriages among the graduates of the Library school are those of Miss Kathryn Sears, '14, to Allen Durs-ton Partridge, and of Miss Catherine Branch, '16, to Winthrop W. Mellen.

E. E. SPERRY,  
Director.

#### University of Washington

Graduates from this and other colleges and universities may be admitted to the Library school if they offer for entrance at least sixteen college credits each in German and French, and may obtain the degree of B. L. E. at the end of a year by devoting all of their time to the professional courses.

Sixteen graduates of the Library school met on the evening of February 22, and after dining together joined in an informal discussion of library needs and problems which proved helpful and interesting to all.

Jessie Ballard, '13, formerly librarian of the North Yakima public library, was married February 21 to Dr. Peter Grant Mac-Intosh of North Yakima.

Laurentine Meissner, '13, is librarian of the Columbia branch, Seattle.

Valeda Mongerson, '16, is an assistant in the Public library, St. Charles, Ill.

Ethel Mourant, '14, is in the children's room of the Seattle public library.

Verna Barstad, '15, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Centralia, following the resignation of Madeline Pingry, '15, who is now Mrs. Lawrence Galvin, of Centralia.

Elizabeth Kirkwood, '13, is in the Periodicals department of the Seattle public library.

W. E. HENRY, Director.

#### Western Reserve university

The course in Subject bibliography began March 1, is given by Thirza E. Grant, and is to be supplemented by the preparation of reference lists in connection with the Reference division of the Cleveland public library. Anna G. Hubbard, head of the Order division of the Cleveland public library, gave

three lectures on Book buying; Elima A. Foster, head of the Philosophy and religion division, gave one lecture on books on religion, and Ada M. McCormick, librarian of the Municipal reference library, gave one lecture on Municipal and legislative reference work.

Mr. Adam Strohm, librarian of the Detroit public library, lectured on Americanization, based on the interesting work done in Detroit; Mr. Allen T. Burns, director of the Cleveland Federation survey, lectured on the organization of the Foundation and the recent education survey. Another lecturer of the month was Mr. Herbert S. Hirschberg, librarian of the Toledo public library, who spoke on Library publicity, illustrated by lantern slides.

The students had the opportunity on the afternoon of February 19 of seeing the Lemperley collection of book plates, by E. D. French, which has been given to the library of Western reserve university. The librarian, Mr. Strong, gave an interesting and informal talk regarding them.

Miss Harriet E. Howe, head instructor, has been appointed director of the Iowa Summer library school at the State university of Iowa for the session of 1917.

Each Saturday afternoon during March, the Director was "at home" informally to the students of the Library school.

Alice M. Smith '14, has resigned her position as assistant in the children's department of the Cleveland public library.

Mary Yoder '14, has resigned her position in the Dayton public library to become librarian with Schenck & Williams, Architects, of Dayton, O.

On February 16, Margaret Rusbatch '12, was married to Ralph E. Fuller of Cleveland.

ALICE S. TYLER,  
Director.

#### University of Wisconsin

The months of February and March find the students diligently carrying on the work of their field appointments. During February, the faculty made 81 visits among the libraries of the state, not only in libraries where students were stationed, but beginning their annual itinerary of visits on all the libraries. March will register a larger number of library visits.

It is a great privilege to announce that Miss Jessie B. Rittenhouse of New York, the editor of anthologies of modern verse, and herself one of the modern poets, is to be the guest of the School on Thursday April 5. She will lecture while here on Modern poetry and democracy. All the librarians of the state are cordially invited to share the lecture with the School, and it is hoped that many will find it possible to come to Madison for the event.

Miss Mary F. Carpenter, who has been connected with the School since March 1906, coming in the days of organization and preparation for the first class, has been granted a seven months leave of absence, which will be spent in Hawaii. She has received an appointment for substitute work in the library of Hawaii for three months, and for another three months will organize the pamphlet collection of the Historical department of the same library. She sails on April 12, and returns to her work in the School in November.

During the 11 years of her connection with the School, Miss Carpenter has organized its bibliographic collection, numbering over 6000 titles, besides many hundreds of printed blanks and forms from various parts of the country. Miss Carpenter is also one of the instructors in the School, and a library visitor for the Commission. She is indeed entitled to the delightful change of scene and work that has come to her, and her colleagues in the School, its graduates, the present students, and her many friends among the librarians of the state will wish her *bon voyage* as she sails to the islands of the Pacific.

Florence H. Davis, '12, is organizing the business library of the Kentucky Tobacco Products Company in Louisville.

Dorothea C. Heins, '12, for three years in charge of stations in the Superior public library, has accepted a position in the Public library, Evansville, Ind.

Hazel E. Askey, '13, has been appointed to the cataloging department of the California state library, beginning work January 16.

May C. Lewis, '14, has resigned as assist-

ant in the Madison free library to accept the position of cataloger in the Carnegie library of Tampa, Florida.

Jennie E. Doran, '15, is resigning as cataloger at the Public library, Calgary, Alberta, to become chief of the order department in the Denver public library.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE,  
Preceptor.

### Summer Schools Berkeley, Cal.

A summer school in library methods will be held at the University of California, Berkeley, June 25-August 4, under the direction of Mrs Theodora R. Brewitt of the Training school of the Public library, Los Angeles.

The school is planned to occupy fully the student's time so that no additional work, either in the University or outside, should be attempted. The course offers both instruction and practice work in library science and economy.

A limited number only can be admitted and these will be selected from the total number of applicants with due regard to personal and educational qualifications and previous library experience. Applications must be filed not later than May 1.

### Chautauqua

The Chautauqua library school will be held as usual, July 7-August 18. Mary E. Downey will be director, assisted by Mary M. Shaver, Vassar college library, and Ruth Wallace, Evansville (Ind.) public library.

The work will be supplemented by the regular Chautauqua program and by special lectures, including members of the summer school faculty on the literature of their particular subjects. Lectures will be followed by practice work.

No one will be admitted who has not previously filled out a registration blank and received the official matriculation card.

Definite information concerning the details of the course will be sent to any one interested. Application should be made to Mary E. Downey, Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Columbia university**

A course in library economy will be given at the summer session of Columbia university, New York City, July 9-August 17.

Bibliography, including reference books. Helen Rex Keller, instructor, Columbia university.

Administration of the school library. The high school library, Mary E. Hall, librarian, Girls' high school, Brooklyn.

The normal school library, Irene Warren, formerly librarian, School of education, University of Chicago.

Cataloging and classification. Helen Rex Keller.

Public documents. Adelaide R. Hasse, chief of Documents division, New York public library.

Indexing as applied to business. Irene Warren.

**Indiana**

The usual summer school in library methods and administration will be held by the Library commission at Butler college, Indianapolis. Full information will be sent on application to the commission.

**New York state library**

The plans for the summer session of the New York State Library school are practically complete. The general plan will not differ materially from that of former years in which the general course has extended throughout the entire six weeks but many changes will be made in details. In the course in Selection of books and Reference, particular stress will be placed on books meeting present problems as well as those of permanent value. It is hoped that several lectures given by specialists to the institute for High School librarians which will be in session during the latter part of the summer school will be of interest to the summer school students as well. It is probable that no special circular will be issued this year but detailed information may be obtained by addressing Miss Edna M. Sanderson, Registrar, New York State Library School, Albany, N. Y.

F. K. WALTER.

**Riverside, Cal.**

The summer term of the Riverside library school will begin June 25 and close August 11. Julia E. Elliott, head of the Indexers, will give a five weeks' course in cataloging and classification. Adeline B. Zachert will give a four weeks' course in children's work and library work outside the library. The other work will be given by the staff of Riverside public library.

**Simmons college**

Summer session of 1917 will cover a six weeks course to be given as usual, July 2-August 10, inclusive.

It is possible, however, to register for either the six weeks, or for either one of the three week periods.

The cataloging and classification will be given this year by Miss Donnelly, the reference-library economy by Miss Blunt.

A separate course of three weeks will be given in Library work with children, by Miss Alice Higgins, from July 2-20.

Admission is restricted to those actually in library positions. Kindergarten and primary teachers are eligible to the course in Children's work. High school teachers who have assignments in charge of a high school library will be admitted to the other courses.

The summer library conference held by the Massachusetts commission last year was so successful that they intend to repeat the meeting this season. The dates of July 10-12 have been set, and the program will be announced. The College finds it a great advantage to its library summer class to have the privilege of attending the conference, and it is also glad to be of service to the Massachusetts librarians.

**Wisconsin**

The Summer session will be held as usual covering the six weeks from June 25 to August 4. It is intended primarily for librarians and assistants in Wisconsin libraries who can not leave their work long enough to take the year's course, but who need the help and drill and stimulus of the six weeks.

## Department of School Libraries

### The Reading of High School Students

Sarah C. Evans, West Chester, Pa.

(Continued.)

When a student comes for special reference work, whether in preparation for recitation or for debate, the librarian can learn his individual tastes and can usually secure some confidential opinions concerning the books he reads. If he feels that his opinions are respected, the librarian gains his confidence and he becomes more tractable. He is willing to respect her opinions also, as this incident shows: Two boys were discussing the list of suggested reading for their particular class. One of them seemed to find no title that appealed to him. After a time the second one said, "Why don't you ask her to help you choose? She's never given me a 'lemon' yet." Now while the librarian deplored the slang, the sentiment expressed warmed the cockles of her heart.

It is an excellent plan to keep a list of books which the girls and boys would like to have in the library. They thoroughly appreciate being consulted in this way. If you can add a few of these titles to your purchasing list, you will find these books much in demand. The recommendation of a companion is accepted more readily than is that of the librarian. If any of these books suggested seem to you to be trifling or pernicious, a frank talk with the pupil making the suggestion, in which you give your reasons for such a decision, will make him have additional respect for your opinion in the future.

Another very satisfactory plan is to place upon a conspicuous shelf several attractive books (not on the lists for suggested reading) that will appeal to as many varied tastes as possible. These books may be read after all reference work is finished; but it should be understood that they are not to be taken from the library so long as they occupy this position of honor.

A few good novels and interesting biographies added to the list of reference books for a particular period in history or for the study of some classic, will bring these books before the students in an entirely new light and will create a desire to read them upon the part of some.

I have not mentioned the reading of those students who are book hungry. They offer no problem. They are the joy of the librarian's heart. It is those that must be guided into the pleasant pastures that I have considered. Yet even they frequently develop a sudden love for good literature as did one boy, a fine athlete, who prided himself upon not having time to read anything but articles on athletics and the daily newspapers. He was persuaded to read "An inland voyage" because of his having taken a canoe trip under similar circumstances. He was delighted with the book. He wanted to read everything that Stevenson wrote. He became an eager reader of good things. The last book he borrowed from the library before being graduated was Chesterton's "Varied types." This progress was made in a little less than two years.

To sum it all up—we can improve the reading of our high school students by as many ways as possible. The personal making the best books most attractive in equation will do a large part in solving the problem.

#### Clippings

This year we have added 480 clippings to our library. These consist of poems, short stories, songs, dialogues, etc., for holidays, clipped from magazines and newspapers or typed from books. These special day clippings are mounted on colored mounts, all Christmas material being mounted on red, Thanksgiving on yellow, etc. The material in this form is not only convenient for handling but very suggestive to the prospective teachers for caring for similar material of their own.

—Milwaukee Normal School.

**Suggestions for Library Interest**

**Marian E. Potts, librarian, College of Industrial Arts, Denton, Texas**

College and normal school and even high school libraries may become active agents in improving school libraries in general. If they will develop and carry out a definite program directed toward this end, they may accomplish noticeable results in a few years. Some suggestions from actual experience may prove of value.

First of all, to assist the student to work intelligently, introduce him to the library by a series of short talks. Where the institution is large and the attendance is from libreried communities, these lectures are not essential. But where the students make their initial calls on a library when they come to college, some formal instruction is essential. Future school librarians may be started on their courses by this very simple series of explanations. Aim to make the series interesting as well as informational, arouse curiosity about the possibilities of adventure to be found in the library, and make them understand that there is other material beyond the realm of required reading.

Toward the end of the school year, the students who expect to teach begin to be curious about how and where to buy books. Take advantage of this opportunity to give them a number of things. Advertise the lecture so that all the students who wish to come may know about it. Along with the addresses of booksellers and publishers, explain about discounts and the securing of desk copies. Tell how a postal card will bring pounds of catalogs and book notices, and suggest a method of reading these notices so that they may be of the greatest value—how to discard and how to file notices which are kept for reference. Discuss how to keep in touch with new literature through book reviewing periodicals, and make evaluations of some of the leading reviews. All this is information new teachers do not know they lack, until they need it, and it is all information they will need. Supply them with pre-

pared lists of information and suggest the taking of careful notes from the lecture.

In the summer school and during the regular session, instruct a class in elementary library methods. Aim to assist teachers who work with school libraries. This undertaking is one of the most important a school library can perform. School libraries will never be on a firm foundation until the persons in charge know the best methods of procedure. But a teacher whose first duty is to her special profession will not devote a great amount of time to another activity—library work. What she learns, she must pick up in a short time in an elementary way. This she can do if she is offered a short elementary course. But even then, not a great many teachers will select this course when so much of their time is required to prepare for securing teachers' certificates. Not until library economy is included in the state teachers' examinations will the needs of the elementary and high schools for better library administration be met.

Few teachers have definite ideas of what constitutes a good school library. Perhaps the elementary schools and high schools which they attended were poor, and their visiting and observing opportunities small. If a college or a normal school library could contain a model, it would be an aid to teacher librarians. Of course a teacher can always secure lists of books—best books for purchase for different ages—but if, in addition, she can see the books, themselves, arranged as she may arrange them in her school, she will have a visual aid which will relieve the strain on her imagination.

None of these suggestions are beyond the possibilities of the average college and normal school library. If each institution aimed to assist in improving school libraries, an immeasurable amount might be accomplished.

The February meeting of the New Jersey school librarians' association was held Saturday morning, Feb. 17, in the library of the Central commercial and

manual training high school, Newark. Miss Josephine Rathbone of Pratt Institute spoke on "Illustrated editions for the high school library." The committee had gathered together a number of the books about which Miss Rathbone spoke. Her talk was both practical and inspirational and it is hoped that many "browsing corners" in the high school libraries of New Jersey will be the result.

H. IRENE DAYTON,  
Secretary.

#### School libraries in Oklahoma

The Department of public instruction of Oklahoma has issued a "Guide to better schools," by E. A. Duke, assistant-state superintendent of public instruction, in which are some interesting items on the library situation.

One chapter (p. 136-148) is on school libraries. The state law in regard to school libraries is discussed, and the fact is deplored that the advantages which might be secured under the law are so generally ignored. The chapter discusses the value of the well equipped school library, the selection of its books, their care, and the means of awakening interest in them.

Mr Duke mentions the reading aloud at the opening exercises of selections from good books as a method of arousing the child's interest. Many of us have secured a fine showing of punctuality by this means when we were teaching in the little one-room school house years ago when the only "library," besides the children's worn textbooks, was the teacher's few books. I have known a child to tramp two miles through the snow with the thermometer twenty degrees below zero to be "on time" when a chapter of "An old fashioned girl" was to be read. And how eagerly rows of "examples" were solved when the reward was to be allowed to read one of "Teacher's books" the rest of that period! The children may be surfeited with forced feeding, but the hungry little hearts far away from books are the

ones we most need to work for and who will be most grateful for our efforts.

A list of "Books suitable for school libraries" is included, classed by grades. Author, title, publisher and price are given for about 500 books. In addition, the chapter on "Thrift" contains a list of 25 books "which should be in every school library." Mention is made of "Teacher's helps and guide in selecting a library," by Miss Ruby Canton, librarian of the Central state normal-school.

The chapter on "Social centers" contains a "Library program" which may be used to raise additional funds for the school library.

Besides the library suggestion mentioned, this little book contains chapters on model schools (with plans), "teach-erages," social centers, moonlight schools, consolidation, etc., in Oklahoma. In spite of some typographical errors, and although the ideas advanced are not new, the book is of interest to anyone concerned with rural or educational problems.

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There are no dry books in the ideal library. The library is a dairy. Novels are milk: the standard ones, Jersey milk; the very light ones, watered milk. Short stories are condensed milk. Essays are cream. Poetry is whipped cream. Drama, of all literature the most selective, and aiming to entertain, is ice cream. As class books are designed for our good, they are malted milk, that is, the interesting ones are. Those hard to swallow, are butter-milk. Of course, if you happen to like butter-milk and to dislike malted milk, it is the other way around. If you like both,—why then you are a scholar. Translations are skimmed milk. Juvenile books, especially those like the juvenile edition of the Arabian Nights, are modified milk. Books containing morals are egg milk shakes. And the restricted books are egg-nogs. — *Cleveland Staff Bulletin*.

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The work lives on, bringing rich fruitage  
In the years to come,  
After the master's busy tools are quiet  
And the master's lips are dumb.

## News from the Field

## East

Clarence E. Sherman, N. Y. State, '11-'12, has resigned the assistant librarianship at Amherst college to become librarian of the Public library of Lynn, Mass.

Edward D. Greenman, N. Y. State, '07-'08, is assisting in the reorganization of the library of Arthur D. Little, Inc., Chemists, Engineers and Managers, Boston, Mass.

The library of the late Professor Hugo Muensterberg of Harvard university, has been given to that institution. The library contains a valuable collection of books on psychological subjects gathered in the long years of Professor Muensterberg's study along these lines.

The death of Mrs Mary H. Curran of Bangor, Maine, on February 19, removes from the ranks of librarianship, one who since 1876, followed the path that led through discouragements and hard work, alternated by periods of hope and achievement. For more than 44 years she was in library work in Bangor.

## Central Atlantic

Ono M. Imhoff, N. Y. State, '98, was married to William Edward Hooper in New York City on February 27.

Leila Kemmerer, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '16, has gone to the library of the U. S. department of agriculture as temporary assistant.

Miss Mary Mildred MacCarthy, Pratt '15, has been appointed cataloger at the library of Haverford college, Haverford, Pa., and began work April first.

Miss Susan R. Clendenin, Pratt '01, has accepted the position of librarian of the architectural firm of Trowbridge and Ackerman of New York.

Carson Brevoort, Pratt '15, has resigned from the Documents division of the New York public library to accept the position of librarian to the D. Van Nostrand Company.

Emma W. H. Scott has been chosen field secretary and library organizer of

the Maryland public library commission. The trustees of the Enoch Pratt library of Baltimore have granted headquarters for the commission in that library without charge.

The report of the Public library of Buffalo contains a memorial note and portrait of Mr William Ives, who died in August at the age of 99½ years. Mr Ives was present at the 1876 conference of librarians. He served the Buffalo library as librarian for more than 50 years.

Harrison W. Craver has been elected chief librarian of the United Engineering society of New York. That library has one of the best collections of technical literature in the country and is located in the very handsome building which Mr Carnegie provided for the organization. Mr Craver had been connected with the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh since 1900 and had been librarian for the past 10 years.

Henrietta M. Blasl, N. Y. State, '10, who has been assisting in the editorial work on the *Standard Catalog* series published by the H. W. Wilson Company, has returned to her former position in the catalog section of the Library of Congress.

The Boards of trustees of the public libraries of Queensboro, New York and Brooklyn, have united in asking the Board of estimate for an emergency appropriation to make possible a five per cent increase in the salaries of library employees who receive \$1,200 or less, a year. The staff of the Queensboro public library will hereafter be paid every fortnight, instead of every month as heretofore.

John H. Leete, dean of the School of applied science, Carnegie institute of technology, was appointed librarian of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, March 1, with the title of director, to succeed Mr Harrison W. Craver. He is now in his fiftieth year and holds degrees from Colgate and Harvard. He was professor of mathematics at the

State college for several years, coming from that institution in 1906 to the Carnegie technical schools. He has been dean of the Applied science school since 1908.

The report of the Public library of Syracuse, N. Y., records, number of agencies, 32; number of volumes, 12,693; lent for home use, 429,700 v.; number of borrowers registered, 15,535; income, \$51,952. Expenses: books and periodicals, \$10,724; library salaries, \$23,220; other salaries, \$4,922.

The public library of Syracuse, N. Y., is making arrangements for an exhaustive exhibition on Edwin Noyes Westcott, author of *David Harum*, which will be held in the library as soon as it is worked into shape. Original manuscripts of his works, scrap books that have been kept by friends and admirers, will be included. William H. Crane, the actor, has a large scrap book of pictures, programs and clippings of the author and his work, which will be donated.

The twentieth annual report of the Buffalo public library covers the activities of the Central library, seven branches, five stations, two depositories, 943 grade libraries in 44 schools and 446 traveling libraries. The circulation for the year was 1,720,494v.; registered borrowers, 92,031 and 42,844 children drawing books from the grade libraries of the public libraries.

The number of books on the shelves is 355,021. The circulation suggests much less leisure time in the community, which is borne out by the experience of the library—finding it difficult to get workers, not only in regular library work but in the binding and in the group of pages.

The need for additional agencies for circulation, branch libraries is greatly felt in several parts of the city.

The income for 1916 was \$139,275 of which \$29,321 was spent for books, \$7,922 for binding, \$2,352 for periodicals and \$74,318 for salaries. There was no increase in the appropriation by the city.

### Central

Mary A. Torrance, B. L. S., Illinois, '13, has been appointed librarian of the Public library of Muncie, Indiana.

Mrs Gertrude Gilbert Drury, N. Y. State, '09-'10, has been appointed substitute assistant in the St Louis public library.

Margery Quigley of the St. Louis public library, has completed a survey of the branch library system in the city of St. Paul, made at the request of the library authorities of that city.

Kate D. Ferguson, Illinois, '14-16, has resigned the position of assistant in the Public library, Evanston, to accept that of librarian of the Douglas Township free library, Gilman.

Miss Jennie Henshaw, a recent graduate of the local high school, has been appointed librarian of the Public library of Alexandria, Indiana, to succeed Miss Zada Carr, resigned.

J. M. Wing, one of Chicago's oldest newspaper men, died March 14. His will bequeathed the bulk of his \$250,000 estate to the Newberry library, Chicago, to establish a department to be known as the J. M. Wing foundation, to which he had already assigned his own valuable collection of rare books and prints.

The main points in the annual report, 1916, of the Public library of Burlington, Ia., are as follows: Miriam B. Wharton, librarian; accessions, 2,916; total, 40,714. Circulation, adult 60,934, juvenile 51,182; total, 112,116, 58% fiction. Population 24,261, circulation per capita 4.62. New registration, 1,051; total 6,835, 28% population. Income, \$10,245; expenditures: books, \$2,629, salaries, library service, \$4,106; other maintenance \$3,075.

The annual report of the Public library, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, records a circulation of 216,722v.

Extension work is to be emphasized as the greater part of future growth will come thru outside agencies. More and more business interests are forcing

people to move to the outlying residential districts.

"Good-book week" was observed. The dry goods and clothing merchants were given library slips to be placed in their parcels, the vaudeville and moving picture theatres showed slides advertising the library, the street cars carried signs and the newspapers published many articles concerning the work of the institution. Eleven stores gave window space for the display of library books, magazines and posters.

The forty-first annual report of the Free library of Madison, Wisconsin, prepared by the librarian, Miss Mary A. Smith, states that no year has even seen more work accomplished with just people and books. Circulation of books reached 193,076v. the chief growth being in the children's department. The assembly rooms have been in constant use by the young men's and women's clubs. There were 18 story hours with an average attendance of 60. Instruction in the use of the library was given in the schools to 17 classes and 38 groups of children did the work at the library. Number of borrowers was 15,621; there were 103 meetings held in the assembly rooms of the main building.

The Public library at Oak Park, Ill., has recently opened a new reference room on the second floor. The treatment of the room is carried out along Gothic lines, with leaded windows and oaken beamed ceiling. The sepia tinted walls, hung with a few dull-tone prints, give an atmosphere of simple dignity, quite in keeping with a reference room. The landing on the second floor has been made into a cosy reception room fitted with rugs and frosted reed furniture, where friends who meet may converse without disturbing the readers.

Recently there was much activity in the children's department where Miss Jones, head of the work, gave practical tests to the pupils in the fifth to eighth grades, on the card catalog. Each week three questions were posted and ability to answer each of these required practical knowledge and use of the

catalog. The library was crowded with children who took the work as a sort of a game and with a spirit of competition that gave it added interest.

Anderson H. Hopkins, for many years assistant librarian of the John Crerar library, Chicago, died in Kansas City, March 21. Mr Hopkins was well known in A. L. A. circles some 10 or 12 years ago. He went from Chicago to establish and organize the Public library of Louisville, Ky., and from there was called to the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh. While serving this institution as librarian, he became incapacitated for work, by reason of ill health, and from that time was not connected with library service. He retired to his farm near Niles, Michigan, but never entirely regained his health. He was visiting relatives in Kansas City when he was stricken with his last illness.

Mr Hopkins was one of the original members of the A. L. I. He was a life member of the A. L. A. and he was its treasurer 1907-'08. He served on many important committees in all the library organizations. He was one of the founders of the Illinois library association and served as its president two terms. He was always a strong supporter of the Chicago library club during his years in library work there.

#### South

Joseph A. Kemp, a citizen of Wichita Falls, Texas, has given \$25,000 to that city for a library building.

Miss Fannie Whitaker, acting librarian for sometime, has been elected librarian of the Public library, Chickasha, Oklahoma.

Oklahoma legislature has appropriated \$75,000 for a new library building for Oklahoma university at Norman.

The Public library, Birmingham, Ala., had an exhibit of paintings in March, under the auspices of the Birmingham art club.

Mrs Lola C. Arimigo, for many years librarian of New Mexico, has resigned

and Mrs Anita Chapman has been appointed to succeed her.

The Public library of St. Joseph, Missouri, has made arrangements by which the library is to be the depository for the R. L. Polk Directory Company of the latest directories of cities in the United States and Canada. The directories are received by the company on an exchange arrangement.

The thirty-fourth annual report of the Public library of Kansas City, Missouri, records number of volumes in the library, 211,471; registered card holders, 68,045; population, 300,000; volumes loaned 720,375; children's use, 44 per cent; fiction, 34 per cent of whole issue; salaries, \$39,952; books and periodicals, \$27,655.

Miss Lulu C. Senter, assistant librarian in charge of reference work at Public library St. Joseph, Mo., for 25 years, has recently been granted an indefinite leave of absence on account of ill health. Miss Mary L. Reichert, head of the catalog department, was appointed chief of the reference department.

The Public library of St. Louis, Missouri, has undertaken the delivery of books ordered from the library, by parcel post. The postoffice will send a special wagon to the library for such books twice a day. In case books ordered should not be on the shelves when the order arrives a waiting list will be compiled and delivery made as soon as possible. A small deposit to cover postage is necessary for delivery.

The Public library, Kansas City, Missouri, is using paid want-ads in the regular classified columns of the *Kansas City Star* with great success. Under "Seeds and Nursery Stock" you run into this: "LET the public library help with that garden; books loaned free; try the branch in your neighborhood." Items are inserted under the following other classifications: Church notices, Salesmen wanted, Educational, Business chances, Automobiles. It also furnishes a list of references (books

and magazines) each week, on the Sunday evening topic of the Westminster Congregational church. The church includes the list in its weekly calendar.

#### West

The report of Professor Howard S. Driggs of the University of Utah and also president of the Utah state library commission, records 16 Carnegie library buildings in the state and 14 other towns with libraries in buildings supplied by the community or in rented quarters.

The fortieth annual report of the Public library of Omaha records number of registered borrowers, 27,580; population, 166,470; books lent for home use, 389,174 v.; area covered 30.5 square miles; number of books in the library 123,891. The time for which a book may be taken out was changed to 28 days with the privilege of renewal. In addition to the circulation of books, the library lent pictures, clippings and duplicate type-written copies of articles from magazines and books, stereopticon slides, maps and articles from the museum collection.

Exclusive of the two branches, the library has established seven school stations, 10 drug store stations, stations in factories, 125 classroom libraries and one each in the hospital, the Social settlement library and the Old People's home. Separate collections are maintained for this work. The receipts for the year were \$53,870 of which \$40,000 was contributed by the city; expenditures; books, \$9022; general expenses, \$3209; librarians' salaries, \$18,542; binders, \$3771; janitors, \$3467.

#### Pacific coast

The library of Tacoma, Wash., has issued a reference list on "Accident prevention and safety first."

Gail Thompson has resigned her position as librarian of the Public library, Ritzville, Wash.

Eva W. Graves, N. Y. S., previously an assistant in the Branch department of the Seattle public library, was placed in charge of the Periodical division in December, 1915, Marion Thum, the for-

mer head of the division, having resigned to be married.

Grace J. McIntosh, Drexel, has been appointed librarian of the West Seattle branch of the Seattle public library beginning March 1. Miss McIntosh has been a member of the staff of the Portland (Ore.) library association for the last five years.

Edith L. Pancoast, Drexel, has been appointed librarian of the Georgetown branch of the Seattle public library and began her work there on February 19. Miss Pancoast has been an assistant in the Circulation department since early in January and the year previous was a branch librarian in Tacoma.

There were 31,500 cards added to the dictionary catalog in the library of the University of California and some 57,000 new cards have been added to the depository catalog during the year, making an approximate number of 846,000 depository cards received from the Library of Congress, John Crerar library and the Newberry library and from the libraries of Harvard, Chicago, Illinois and Michigan universities. In addition to the \$25,220 for salaries in the library, \$19,000 was spent for assistance.

The report of M. H. Douglass, librarian of the University of Oregon library, Eugene, Ore., shows 9,494 books added during 1916, and 21 withdrawn, making a total gain of 9,473 v. in the library. A large part of this was due to the collections of books on law and architecture which were added. The present contents of the library number 67,969 v. Number of books issued, 92,829, an increase of 36 per cent. Special list of books for freshmen reading for which credit was given, increased the circulation for home use nearly 41 per cent. Requests for books from out of town came from graduates of the university, teachers, clergymen and libraries. A new University high school library was organized by the University library, the books of which were selected by Dr Sheldon from the "List of

books for school libraries of the state of Oregon," prepared by the State library. A course in High school library work was given by the librarian.

#### Canada

The annual report of the Collingwood, Can., public library, shows a total of 15,011 books issued last year.

The handsome new public library building for Montreal is nearly completed and it is expected to be ready for occupancy about August 1.

#### Foreign

The report of the Public library of South Australia at Adelaide, records the enlistment in the army of a number from the staff, beginning with H. Rutherford Purnell, librarian, throughout every department of the service. Substitute help and rearrangement of those on the staff are tiding over the period of absence. The children's room opened some time ago and is reported to be in very excellent operation, especially on holidays. The number of volumes in the library is 96,352. The donations during the year were especially large and valuable. The use of the library, by numbers, has decreased somewhat as compared with former years. The daily average was 303.

Geo. H. Elliott, librarian of the Public library, Belfast, Ireland, died January 23. Mr. Elliott had been librarian of the "Lit. and Phil." of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and librarian of Gateshead public library before going to Belfast in 1888.

Mr. Elliott was always most genuinely interested in making the library an educational power and kept abreast of the library movement. His genial, kindly disposition won him many friends, who will mourn his loss both in the library service and out of it.

The Senate of the French government has voted to establish a library for the use of its members. A collection of material relating to subjects of government concern will be made and placed in charge of expert authority.

### Certification of Librarians and Standardization of Library Work

A list of references prepared for a Round-table on the subject, held by the First District of the California library association, February 19, 1917.

Standardization of library service. Abstract of paper by E. C. Doren and of discussion at the Midwinter meeting of the A. L. A. Council in Chicago. Dec. 28-29, 1916. *A. L. A. Bul.* 11:19-24. Jan. 1917; *L. J.* 42:115-16 Feb., 1917; *P. L.* 22:68-9. Feb., 1917.

Problem for the certification of librarians. Abstract of paper by P. L. Windsor and of discussion at the Midwinter meeting of the A. L. A. Council in Chicago. Dec. 28-29, 1916. *A. L. A. Bul.* 11:41. Jan. 1917, *L. J.* 42:121. Feb., 1917; *P. L.* 22:70-1. Feb., 1917.

Standardization of libraries (Editorial) *L. J.* 42:81 Feb., 1917.

Certification of librarians (Editorial) *L. J.* 42:81 Feb., 1917.

A debtor to his profession. Certification of librarians. M. J. Booth *P. L.* 22:5-8. Jan., 1917.

Proposed legislation (in Illinois) *P. L.* 21:456-7. Dec., 1916.

Certificates for librarians: How a system of state certificates will advance the library cause: What the state has done to prepare for such a system: Some possible objections. *N. Y. Lib.* 5:146-49 Nov., 1916.

The merit system in library appointment. *L. J.* 41:811-15 Nov., 1916.

The merit system in libraries. Abstract from the report of the N. Y. library association on the merit system in libraries, *N. Y. Lib.* 5:161-63 Nov., 1916.

Resolutions presented by the N. Y. library association's committee on civil service at Richfield Springs, N. Y. Sept., 1916, *N. Y. Libs.* 5:165 Nov., 1916.

Comments on library legislation. W. H. Brett. *A. L. A. Bul.* 10:321-2 Jy., 1916.

Certification of librarians. *L. J.* 41:510-11. Jy., 1916.

Tests for librarians. *L. J.* 41:8-9. Jan., 1916.

Certification of Ohio librarians (Editorial) *L. J.* 34:2 Jan., 1909.

Proposed library legislation in Ohio. *L. J.* 33:507-8 Dec., 1908.

Examinations for librarians (Editorial) *P. L.* 13:404-5 Dec., 1908.

State examinations for librarians. *P. L.* 13:173 May, 1908.

Certificates for librarians. Ohio state library report. 1907-08:13.

State certificates for librarians, *P. L.* 12:280 Jy., 1907.

State examinations and state certificates for librarians. C. F. Baldwin. *L. J.* 31:806-8 Dec., 1906.

A. Law Voge.

### Good Advice

The editor of the *Staff News Bulletin* of the Cleveland public library, finishes his paper with a poem which is presented in behalf of PUBLIC LIBRARIES with the same desire that was in the heart of the other editor who wrote it.

If you ever think a thought,  
Write it down!  
If you e'er do what you ought,  
Write it down!  
Have you skill to train a page  
Till he's wise as any sage  
And discreet beyond his age?  
Write it down!

Can you teach the youthful mind  
Write it down!  
How he may the good books find?  
Write it down!  
Tell us every detail,  
All your methods now unveil,  
Why they're never known to fail.  
Write it down!

Do you visit any class?  
Write it down!  
Meeting children in the mass,  
Write it down!  
What systems do you see employed?  
What subjects do you find enjoyed?  
Have you the books to fill each void?  
Write it down!

Dost know an instantaneous way,  
Write it down!  
Of guiding reading day by day?  
Write it down!  
If you can keep books free from grime,  
If you can send things in on time,  
Oh then, in prose, *verse libre* or rhyme,  
Write it down!

**For Sale**—A copy of the Proceedings of the International conference of librarians, London, 1897. Price \$7. In perfect condition. Address L. E. W., care Library Bureau, Chicago.

**To Librarians:** For sale—The Medical and Surgical History of the Rebellion, six volumes complete, in splendid condition. Address "L. W. L.," Library Bureau, Chicago.

**Position Wanted.** By bookbinder, systematic and practical worker, 50 years old, strictly temperate, place in a library. P. Scherbel, 1324 Carteret Str., Pueblo, Colo.